

## MARCH 2020 EDITION



### Status Update from the DEED Board

In light of the current COVID-19 crisis, the DEED Board and APPA DEED staff would like to reaffirm their commitment to you, DEED members. Although the DEED Board will not be able to meet in person at the Engineering and Operations conference this year, their meeting will be conducted remotely. So the DEED Board will continue on schedule to evaluate spring grant and scholarship applications. APPA DEED staff is also committed to regular programmatic upkeep. If you have any questions, please reach out to [DEED@publicpower.org](mailto:DEED@publicpower.org)

From all of us on the DEED Board and APPA DEED staff, stay safe and thank you for keeping the lights on.



DEED Board, EPRI staff, and APPA DEED staff at the fall 2019 DEED Board meeting in Knoxville, TN

**Celebrate 40 years of R&D!**



Log into the DEED Project Database for details on this and nearly 800 other industry-changing projects DEED has funded.



IMPACTING THE INDUSTRY SINCE 2001

### [Celebrating 40 Years of DEED R&D Innovation – eReliability Tracker](#)

What started as a simple spreadsheet to help small utilities log outages by date, address, location, and cause has evolved into [eReliability Tracker](#), a web-based software service that aids hundreds of utilities with tracking, analyzing, and benchmarking distribution system reliability. The DEED program provided initial support for eReliability Tracker in 2001 and subsequently funded multiple software enhancements, including outage management (OMS) connectivity and smart meter analysis capabilities.

[Learn more about the March Spotlight Project.](#)

## 2 Upcoming DEED Webinars in March

### [Our National Labs, a Treasure of Resources & Opportunities for Utility Partnership](#)

In this webinar, you will learn more about the Department of Energy's National Laboratories' technology transfer mission and how engagement with the labs can benefit your utility and community.

We will explore some common ways utilities can work with the labs, review the DOE's Lab Partnering website, and hear how to partner with the labs and leverage your DEED membership to support projects to improve the operations and services of public power utilities, their communities, and customers.

Join us for this unique opportunity to learn from a panel of experts from DOE and your utility peers. This conversation is sure to unleash a storm of untapped R&D potential within the public power community.

**Join us 2:00 - 3:30 PM EST on March 19th.**

[Register here.](#)

### [New Social Media Playbook Offers Blueprint for Successful Customer Engagement](#)

In this webinar, you will learn how Illinois Municipal Electric Agency (IMEA) worked with its intern to create a valuable resource to assist its member utilities in connecting with their customers via social media.

If you are looking for a social media shortcut, this is your tool. It was designed to aid utilities "where they are;" regardless of their size or social media experience level.

Join us for this tutorial to hear directly from those who developed the Social Media Playbook, as well as utilities' who are using it. Learn how to put this resource to work at your utility and apply the pre-loaded calendar posts and sample content. DEED members may preview the Playbook and other materials developed during this internship in the [DEED Project Database, Project ID S-259](#).

**Join us 2:00 - 3:00 PM EST on March 24th.**

[Register here.](#)



DEED Webinars

A chronological listing of DEED webinars is posted for DEED member only access [here](#). DEED webinars are provided free to DEED members. To find out if you are a DEED member, click [here](#).

## DEED's 40th Anniversary



Please use our updated 40th Anniversary DEED logo! You can access the different formats of the new logo [here](#) and use it any time you promote your involvement with public power R&D.

## Department of Energy Funding Opportunities

### **Energy Efficiency and Demand Flexibility of Buildings**

U.S. DOE's Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (EERE) announced its intent to issue a funding opportunity announcement (FOA) entitled "Connected Communities" that would invest up to \$42 million in pilot projects. This FOA is designed to demonstrate and evaluate the capacity of grid-interactive efficient buildings to provide demand flexibility. The FOA will be issued in July 2020 via the [EERE Exchange](#).

[Read more on the Energy.Gov announcement here.](#)

Access the [Notice of Intent to Issue the FOA](#)

## EPA Electric Vehicle Webinar - Materials Available



The EPA's State and Local Energy and Environment Program and Office of Transportation and Air Quality conducted a webinar in December 2019 that highlighted the ways utilities and governments can work together to make electric vehicles (EVs) and EV charging more reliable, accessible, affordable, and environmentally beneficial. Webinar speakers included Smart Electric Power Alliance, the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission, and Seattle City Light.

[View the webinar recording, slides, and transcript.](#)

## NREL Releases New State and Local Energy Data

The National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL), in collaboration with the U.S. Department of Energy, has released a suite of new interactive datasets delivering detailed information on building and transportation energy estimated for each U.S. city and county. These new resources are meant to inform more data-driven energy decision making at the local level.

[View the datasets here.](#)

## Recently Completed Projects

Three scholarships wrapped up in the month since our last newsletter. Visit the [DEED Project Database](#) for a repository of hundreds of outstanding research projects funded by DEED. Learn what other public power utilities like yours have done. Discover how you can replicate or improve on the success of projects completed by your peers. Get ideas for your own projects and apply for DEED co-funding with a DEED grant.

### S-267 Solar Energy Educational Outreach Development

Two student interns from the University of Wisconsin-Parkside assisted **Menasha Utilities, WI** in developing an interactive web-based program to educate the public on renewable energy including the existing public solar energy systems in Menasha with near real time data, general information about solar energy and how it works, local weather, and opportunities to learn more about local public power programs. [READ MORE](#)

### S-268 STATCOM vs. Synchronous Condenser: System Perspective for Stability & Control in Low-Inertia Systems

**Silicon Valley Power** sponsored a student research grant for an Electrical Engineering student from Washington State University to systematically study, analyze, and compare conventional (synchronous condenser (SC)) and power electronics-based (STATCOM) means to improve inertial/frequency response in high-renewables and low-inertia power systems. The project studies models of the STATCOM and SC used in the grid-connected renewable systems and investigates the ability of the system using the designed controllers. [READ MORE](#)

### S-269 KUA Reginald Hardee Line Worker Internship

Kissimmee Utility Authority brought on a graduating high school student who resides within their service territory as an intern within the transmission and distribution operations division to teach them the skills necessary to become a lineworker. The internship was designed to attract local residents that have standing ties to the community and to prepare them for a future full-time position within the utility. The goal is to bring them into the organizational structure early and to assist with employee retention. [READ MORE](#)

## Contact

[DEED@publicpower.org](mailto:DEED@publicpower.org)

202.467.2911



© 2018 : American Public Power Association  
2451 Crystal Drive, Suite 1000, Arlington, VA 22202  
202.467.2900

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