

MAY 2020 EDITION

DEED *n*digest

American Public Power Association

Celebrate 40 years of R&D!



Efficient Electrification through Indoor Food Production

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



IMPACTING THE INDUSTRY SINCE 2018

[Celebrating 40 Years of DEED R&D Innovation – Efficient Electrification through Indoor Food Production](#)

Through a DEED grant, Missouri River Energy Services is studying opportunities for indoor food production (IFP) using a shipping container-based "farm-in-a-box." Graduate students will operate the container at the College of Agriculture Food & Environmental Sciences. The harvest will be donated to a children's museum, which plans to host an educational exhibit to provide information on container-based IFP units and their potential as a source of new industrial and commercial customer growth.

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

Upcoming DEED Webinars

[How to Write a Stellar DEED Grant Application Incorporating Research Design](#)

To assist members in submitting successful grant applications, we're offering a webinar to help you put the 'research' into your project. The research aspect of DEED grant applications is extremely important in order to lead to insights and learning that can be reapplied by DEED members; as such, when it's missing or

inadequate, the result is often a vote of no funding for the proposal.

In this webinar, DEED directors, Liz Jambor from Austin Energy and Rachel Huang from Sacramento Municipal Utility District, who will share the knowledge they've gained from decades of experience developing, directing, and participating in utility research projects as well as evaluating project proposals while serving on the DEED Board. You will learn how to identify research considerations that should be incorporated into a project, such as determining the need for data collection, recognizing and avoiding data bias, accounting for variables, and evaluating the need for a cost-benefit analysis.

Let Liz and Rachel turbocharge your grant writing skills and prepare you for DEED's fall funding cycle which opened May 1. The August 15 application deadline will be here before you know it, so don't delay, register today.

Please join us 2:00 - 3:00 PM EST on May 27th.

[Register now](#)

Mark your Calendars for Upcoming Webinars

- AMI Connected Analytics Platform
 - Speakers: Kyle Roadman from Emerald People's Utility District and Sarah Valovcin from The Energy Authority
 - June 25th at 2 - 3 PM EST
- Electric Vehicle Data Collection in a Midsized, Midwestern City
 - Speakers: Scott Benson and Marc Shkolnick from Lincoln Electric System
 - July 8th at 2 - 3 PM EST



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 Board Funds Spring 2020 Grants and Internships



The DEED Board of Directors and DEED staff in their 40th anniversary DEED swag at the virtual Board meeting

On April 22nd and 23rd, the DEED Board of Directors held a virtual meeting due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. They approved a total of \$435,702 in funding committed to public power research grants, students internships, and educational scholarships. To learn more about the projects that were approved, [read the full article here.](#)

Grant Applications Opened May 1!



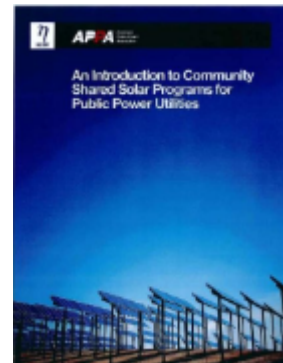
Would free money (aka a DEED grant) help solve a challenge at your utility? Take advantage of the fall funding cycle (open May 1 to August 15) to problem solve with up to \$125,000 in co-funding from DEED. Learn more about DEED funding [here](#) and get application tips from the [Utility Guide for Project Funding](#).

Please email DEED@publicpower.org if you do not already have login information to the grant [management site](#) where you can begin your application.

Check Out a DEED Product

Don't forget about the wealth of resources in the APPA product store for DEED members. You can search by [DEED products](#) to see archived webinar recordings, publications, videos, guidebooks, and so much more. Check out some of our favorite DEED resources:

- [New Social Media Playbook Webinar Recording](#)
- [Our National Labs Webinar Recording](#)
- [An Introduction to Community Shared Solar Programs for Public Power Utilities Document](#)
- [SafetySmart Video Series](#)



Nudging Innovation in Increments



DEED Program Director, Michele Suddleson, published an article in *Energy Central*, entitled "Nudging Innovation in Increments," discussing the creation of the DEED program at APPA. She explains how even small public power research projects can contribute to larger trends in innovation and technology transfer that push the electric utility industry forward. [Read more.](#)



Municipal utilities are invited to join U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE) [National Community Solar Partnership](#) Municipal Utility Collaborative. Those who join the collaborative will work with DOE, subject matter experts, and peers to expand access to affordable community solar in their cities. Participation in this 2-year collaborative comes with access to an in-depth webinar series, direct technical assistance resources, and a peer-to-peer network of municipal utilities focused on accelerating community solar to American households. **Interested utilities are invited to join a NCSP Municipal Utility information session on Thursday, May 21 from 4:00 - 5:00 PM EST. [Register here.](#)** Please direct any questions to community.solar@ee.doe.gov

Recently Completed Projects

Two grants and one scholarship 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.

G-415 An Impedance Method for Determining Distance to the Fault

Fayetteville Public Works Commission, NC undertook a pilot project to implement a simple method of determining fault location using fault location information from their protective relays and a simple spreadsheet to pinpoint the fault location on their distribution feeders. The final report examines the methods available for fault location and describes the method employed at Fayetteville PWC. It shares the results of the pilot project, including the accuracy of their fault location method for actual faults and the amount of time required to find those faults. The report provides readers the information to implement Fayetteville PWC's fault location system on their own distribution system. [READ MORE](#)

G-416 EPUD AMI Connected Analytics Platform

Emerald People's Utility District, OR partnered with The Energy Authority (TEA) to develop a flexible advanced analytics platform that pairs Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) data and other data sources with machine learning algorithms. With this platform, EPUD and TEA worked jointly to run multiple analytical studies, notably in the areas of energy efficiency and time of use rate design. The purpose of the project was to: develop a flexible advanced analytics platform that can accept data inputs from any source regardless of vendor; and to run a series of real world studies using advanced analytics to determine whether a smaller public power utility can benefit from this type of work. [READ MORE](#)

Upcoming webinar on June 25th

S-272 GIS Implementation and Application

Beaches Energy Services, FL hired a student intern, Nhaum Michel from the University of North Florida to assist with the recent initiative to make GIS the source of record for as much information as possible. Specifically, this project focused on identifying and recommending the best field operation applications from

the ESRI Enterprise package to allow Beaches Energy to most efficiently use in-house resources to get information to and from the field. Additionally, it focused on determining a set process to implement the different field applications to allow a better and more efficient workflow management. [READ MORE.](#)

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