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# **Free Technical Assistance Available for Utilities and for Community Projects**





The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) is accepting applications for two of its technical assistance programs.

## **Utility and Grid Operator Technical Assistance Program**

**Rolling technical assistance** provides utilities and grid operators with up to 100 hours of subject matter expertise from NREL and other DOE labs to tackle grid integration and interconnection challenges. Focus areas include:

- Load forecasting
- Distribution system planning
- Distributed energy resources
- Vehicle-grid integration
- Building electrification
- Transmission and distribution coordination
- Bulk-power planning
- Transmission planning



Applications are accepted on a rolling basis. The webpage for this program does not mention whether local match is required. Learn more at [Utility and Grid Operator Technical Assistance](#).

NREL supported Stowe Electric (Vermont) in understanding grid upgrades and designing a tariff program, and NREL supported Kit Carson Electric Cooperative (New Mexico) in understanding hydrogen production, feasibility, and safety.

## **Energy to Communities (E2C) Expert Match Program**

**Expert Match** offers free, short-term technical assistance to help communities tackle near-term energy challenges. It is ideal for communities facing time-sensitive energy decisions and seeking to identify and understand the range of options for achieving energy goals. Eligible stakeholders - including local governments, Tribes, planning organizations, nonprofits, utilities, and higher education institutions - can receive 40–60 hours of support over 3–4 months from national lab experts and partner organizations. Expert Match is for community stakeholders who have decision-making power or influence in their community but need access to additional energy expertise to inform key upcoming decisions.

Applications are accepted on a rolling basis. Local match is not required. Learn more at [Energy to Communities Program: Expert Match](#).

Past assistance included topics such as electricity generation, resilience and access, financing, buildings, transportation, and other infrastructure and crosscutting questions.

