

From: Tench, Danah (DEP) <danah.tench@mass.gov>

Sent: Friday, July 18, 2025 4:15 PM

To: Ferguson, Thomas (ENE) <Thomas.Ferguson@mass.gov>

Cc: DiBara, Michael (DEP) <michael.dibara@mass.gov>; Lee, Sharon K. (DEP) <Sharon.K.Lee@mass.gov>; Lowery, Ann (DEP) <ann.lowery@mass.gov>

Subject: AMP Stakeholder Feedback - CERP Comments on DOER's AMP Energy Storage Grant Program Straw Proposal

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comment on DOER's AMP Energy Storage Grant Program Straw Proposal (Straw Proposal). This grant program is critically important to advancing energy storage systems (ESS) in Massachusetts. CERP through its Gap Grant and other work has seen a growing interest by many facilities with whom we work in obtaining funding to install ESS. We are also acutely aware of the safety concerns by many municipal residents and welcome the inclusion of funding for safety and educational programs.

Specifically based on our experience working with municipal water facilities and food and agricultural entities, we provide the following comments for consideration:

1. Are there any program areas currently not included that you feel should be included? If so, what are those areas and why should they be included?

It is unclear from the information provided if DOER has considered or will be including an opportunity for applicants to include participation in the following programs.

- Offer an “OnDemand Energy Storage Provider Service -ODESPS” program pathway. This would provide additional DOER grant assistance for Community Resilience projects jump-started and implemented by MA Pre-Approved Curtailment Service Providers:
 1. ENE 51 DCAMM Statewide Contract for Demand Response Services - CPower - may be an avenue for future partnership
 2. Connected Solutions Program: CPower, enel x, IPKeys, Voltus
- Benefits:
 - Leverage existing Demand Response service programs by private company providers to advance statewide BESS goals
 - Utilizes technical expertise, economies of scale, and company infrastructure (monitoring of economic, energy, environmental results)
 - DOER grant would help to reduce capital project costs by the Applicant Grantee/BESS provider and potentially provide a more robust revenue sharing plan with the host community project and the service provider

Ex. Community Resilience Goal \$2.5M grant level (DOER slide #23)

Option 1: Pre-Construction Support - Grant up to \$50K grant for feasibility?

Option 2: Project Installation Support – Grant up to 15% of total cost (\$2.5M) = \$375,000

8. General Subprogram Comments:

Advancing Massachusetts Power: Energy Storage Grant Program Straw Proposal Comments:

- Community Resilience: Option 1 and 2 – can a project that applies for option 1 (feasibility) subsequently be eligible for option 2 (project installation) depending on grant fund timing?
- Community Resilience: Application Evaluation Criteria – consider expanding evaluation criteria to encompass nontraditional or innovative locations that can serve as resiliency hub or functions as an emergency shelter
- Safety & education: is there a proposed amount or project number for safety vs education?
- Safety & education: - Does grant include or can grant be expanded to consider training for those entities that install a ESS? Assistance for developing emergency protocols? Assistance in developing case studies to encourage broader acceptance of ESS -
- Safety & education: are there other community benefits (e.g. education investment, school or local certification curriculum, or jobs) that can be considered?
- LDES Commercialization – target audience: include drinking water, senior living facilities or facilities where a larger proportion of the population rely on electricity-dependent durable medical and assistive equipment and devices

Please let us know if you have any questions.

Danah Tench

Clean Energy Results Program

MassDEP

Mobile: 617-733-3998