

FOR RELEASE April 9, 2010

NEW YORK STATE AWARDED \$4.975 MILLION IN FEDERAL FUNDING FOR SMART GRID WORKFORCE TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS

New York, NY – The New York State Smart Grid Consortium.

New York State has been awarded \$4.975 million dollars by the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) to help educate and train the next generation of electrical workers in the state. The funds were part of the \$100 million awarded by the DOE for the 54 Workforce Training and Development programs around the country that will educate new and existing workers for the next generation of utility networks, i.e., the “smart grid.” The Workforce Development Institute, Con Edison, General Electric and Syracuse University were among the primary organizations receiving awards in New York State.

In addition, National Grid received \$2.19 million to design and develop comprehensive training materials for their workforce in both Massachusetts and New York. New York State received over 6% of the total awarded funds and almost 10% of the projects in this recent funding opportunity.

“The awards demonstrate the federal government’s commitment to smart grid and affirm New York State as one of the leaders in national deployment” said Bob Catell, Chairman of the New York State Smart Grid Consortium. “The unique public/private collaboration around smart grid taking place in New York, spearheaded by the Consortium, will ultimately benefit consumers, businesses and society.”

The award selections support two types of workforce training initiatives - Topic A projects are focused on developing and enhancing workforce training programs for the electric power sector; Topic B projects are focused on conducting smart grid workforce training programs for new hires—including displaced workers and military veterans—and retraining programs for electric utility workers and electrical equipment manufacturers to further enhance their knowledge of smart grid technologies and their implementation.

Under Topic A, a total of 33 projects were selected to receive \$41.6 million in federal funds. New York State projects include:

- Syracuse University received \$2.50 million for the development of smart grid curricula across the full spectrum of higher education programs including undergraduate, graduate, and certificate programs. The total project value, including federal funding is \$3.16 million.

Syracuse University will collaborate with SUNY at Buffalo, Buffalo State College, University of Rochester, Clarkson University, and Onondaga Community College, all located in Central and Western New York, to establish Smart Grid engineering and policy curricula..

Under Topic B, a total of 21 projects were selected to receive \$57.7 million in federal funds. New York State projects include:

- The Workforce Development Institute was awarded \$1.59 MM to develop a smart grid lineman workforce in NYS to install, maintain and support the electric power sector. The total project value, including federal funding is \$3.12 million and will result in the training of over 800 line workers as well as up to 450 new apprenticeship positions.
- Con Edison received \$0.24 MM for control center training for smart grid operations. The total project value, including federal funding is \$0.47 million, and will be used to train personnel who will deploy, operate, troubleshoot and maintain various types of equipment necessary as the use of smart grid technologies increases.
- General Electric received \$0.65 MM for training for the development of a Smart Grid Center of Excellence which will be used to design and develop smart grid technologies. The total project value, including federal funding is \$1.23 million and will support the training of approximately 260 engineers and software developers.
- National Grid received \$2.19 MM to train their smart grid workforce in Massachusetts and New York. The total project value, including federal funding is \$4.37 million which will provide advanced smart grid training to between 2,600 and 4,900 workers.

Bob Catell states, “New York State has a vision for smart grid. By capitalizing on this and other federal funding opportunities, and by leveraging the resources and expertise of the Consortium membership, we are excited by the future prospects - a future where we all can experience the full benefits of a more reliable, safe and efficient smart grid.”

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About the New York State Smart Grid Consortium

The New York State Smart Grid Consortium, officially incorporated on July 22, 2009, represents a key public private partnership to promote broad statewide implementation of a safe, secure and reliable smart grid. It is the only organization of its scale in the U.S. that is committed to representing all major contributors across the smart grid value chain; from utilities, market operators, industry, academia, government and end-users. The purpose of the Consortium is to collectively harness the unique resources of New York State to help define and achieve its strategic smart grid vision. Membership is based on commitment to a common set of operating principles -- Customer-focused, Strategically Aligned, Collaborative, Innovative and Performance-driven. The Consortium is a not-for-profit 501(c) 6 corporation -- for more information, please visit <http://nyssmartgrid.com/>.