

Smart Grid Stakeholder Protocols Workshop

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Purpose: To supplement the existing utility Smart Grid Master Plans that focuses primarily on utility supply. This stakeholder outreach series is focused on consumer demand (e.g., healthcare etc) for the midterm and establishes a smart grid vision and protocol for high speed internet from the consumer perspective to help inform the utility supply. The goal is to develop the framework for replicability for jurisdictions to replicate, and metrics of success are recommended to help with long term sustainability.

Deliverables: A smart grid vision report and implementation plan with smart grid protocols for the following land uses¹: media and entertainment, education, healthcare, tourism/hospitality, and manufacturing. Metrics of success will be provided to help decision making processes.

Process: Regional and county level workshop bringing together stakeholders in various land uses and leading them through structured activities to answer questions about their smart grid needs in terms of outcomes they need to drive the economy, create jobs, increase services to consumers, address the specific demographic they need to serve (e.g., age, socio-economic etc).

Optional Analysis

Workforce Gaps Analysis: Analyzing the land uses covered in the Smart Grid Stakeholder Protocols workshop series; determine the job classifications necessary to meet the land use demands in future. The gaps analysis will identify total number of jobs required to meet demand by county and region. A Workforce Working Group will be organized with workforce partners such as Workforce Investment Board, Community Colleges, non-profit job training to clarify the related curriculum and degrees currently being offered and required to meet the job demand.

Marketing and Outreach: The topic of smart grid is very new to most consumers including government, commercial, and residential uses. Options include small group surveys to measure understanding of the topic, key terms of comfort, suggestions for uniform brand and key messaging. In addition, templates will be created which will establish a logo, a look-and-feel and messaging for the topic which can help prosumer, government, commercial, and residential understanding, and increase comfort to increase uptake.

Economic / Financing: A cost-benefit analysis of how smart grid can improve the local economy, creates jobs, and stimulates competitiveness globally. Financial analysis of the cost benefit of smart grid, the recommended finance mechanisms for the capital improvements, a general budget for typical improvements will be clarified, along with the opportunities for bulk purchasing and the partnerships necessary to make these improvements possible

Municipal: Specific municipal ordinances will be recommended, and examples will be provided from existing municipalities. The purpose is to require incremental installation of smart grid infrastructure to meet the demand. Suggestions for Capital Improvement inclusion will be provided.

¹ Land uses can vary depending upon the municipal need.