PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
District of Columbia

Your Energy. Your Voice.

Press Release

For Immediate Release: January 23, 2025
Contact: Whitney Douglas, wdouglas@psc.dc.gov, 202-626-9177

DCPSC Seeks Proposals for Microgrid Pilot to Advance Carbon Neutrality by 2045

Washington, D.C. – The Public Service Commission of the District of Columbia (Commission) has issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) for the **Transactive Neighborhood Renewable Microgrid Pilot Project**, an initiative under PowerPath DC. This project represents a critical step toward modernizing the District's energy system and achieving its climate goals.

This RFP's objective is to fund the development of a renewable, multi-customer microgrid within the District. A microgrid is a network of interconnected loads, generation assets, and advanced control systems located within a specific geographic area and electrical boundary, capable of operating independently from the main electric distribution system when needed. The microgrid will serve multiple customers for this project, leveraging renewable energy sources and transactive energy systems to enable peer-to-peer energy trading.

The selected project aims to support Washington, D.C.'s climate goal of achieving carbon neutrality by 2045 by:

- Reducing greenhouse gas emissions through the replacement of fossil fuels
- Preventing the need for new fossil fuel infrastructure
- Enhancing energy independence and resilience

"The Transactive Neighborhood Renewable Microgrid Pilot Project is a unique opportunity to lead the way in sustainable energy innovation," stated Commission Chairman Emile C. Thompson. "This initiative helps build a cleaner and more resilient future for District residents by fostering local energy independence and reducing carbon emissions," he added.

The microgrid project is also expected to deliver additional direct benefits to District residents, including:

- Improved energy reliability and resilience
- Cost savings and equitable access to sustainable energy
- Positive local economic and environmental impacts

Interested parties are encouraged to submit a proposal for this RFP by April 17, 2025, to help shape the District's clean energy future.

This RFP marks the latest milestone in the PowerPath DC initiative. The PowerPath DC Pilot Projects Governance Board has recommended to the Commission for approval and development several other innovative projects, including:

1. **Community Heat Pump Pilot Project**: Focused on efficient, community-based heating and cooling solutions
2. **Solar Aggregation and Advanced Inverter Pilot Project**: Aiming to optimize solar energy integration for enhanced grid stability.
3. **Virtual Power Plant Pilot Project**: Aggregating distributed energy resources to function as a unified power plant.

Two **Community Heat Pump Pilot** projects are currently underway. One is under construction as part of the **Barry Farms Redevelopment Project**, and the second, at **Meadow Green Courts Garden Apartment Community**, is in the design phase. Also, the **Solar Aggregation and Advanced Inverter Pilot Project** has been awarded to a contractor, further supporting clean energy advancements. Looking ahead, an RFP for the **Virtual Power Plant Pilot Project** is anticipated for release in 2025, reflecting ongoing efforts to enhance renewable energy solutions and infrastructure in the District.

For more information on the RFP or PowerPath DC pilot projects, visit www.dcpsc.org.