

# Climate Resilience Working Group News

Dear Climate Resilience Working Group members,

**Please mark your calendars for our next Climate Resilience Working Group meeting to be held virtually from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. on January 29, 2025. The agenda will include a discussion of our current performance and electric investment priorities, and we will share any information we have about the Public Service Commission’s review of our Climate Resilience Plan.**

Meantime, National Grid is continuing to work closely with the Department of Public Service Staff to advance our Climate Resilience Plan. While we await the outcome of that process, we wanted to take this opportunity to provide you with an update on what we have delivered for customers during the first half of our fiscal year 2025. Among the significant accomplishments thus far:

- ***Achieved excellent operational performance***
  - Electric distribution and transmission network reliability of **99.9%**
  - Invested in the safety and reliability of our electric and gas networks, delivered our Leak Prone Pipe retirements in line with targets, progressed our Smart Path Connect and transmission projects associated with CLCPA Phase 1 and 2 and continued to advance Large-Scale Renewable interconnections, Distributed Energy Resources, electric vehicle charging capacity and electric customer connections to a FLISR automated circuit
  - Continued to develop and deliver operating cost efficiencies to help mitigate the impacts of high inflation on our cost of serving customers; and
  - Collaborated with training and education partners to develop a “flagship” workforce training program for entry-level technical roles.
  
- ***Successfully responded to electric outages***
  - In the first six months of FY25, National Grid prepared for storms and severe weather on 34 occasions, including seven major events. In comparison to the previous year, a higher number of customers experienced interruptions despite a similar number of events (34 vs 32). During the reporting period, approximately 935,000 customers in our service territory experienced supply interruptions due to storms or severe weather events. Despite the increased storm activity, our average time to restore service to 95% of the affected customers for each event remained consistent at around 12 hours, aligning with the performance of the previous year. Additionally, our crews also provided support to AEP, Appalachian Power, and Duke Energy in their restoration efforts following Hurricanes Helene and Milton.
  
- ***Strong support of New York’s CLCPA goals***
  - In March 2024, we announced plans to invest more than \$4 billion in transmission network infrastructure in New York. The ‘Upstate Upgrade’, the largest investment in New York’s electricity transmission network for over a century, is a collection of more than 70 transmission enhancement projects through 2030. The projects will deliver a modernized, stronger, and cleaner energy network in Upstate New York, in addition to generating over 1,700 new jobs.
  - Progress on these projects has continued during the half year, with a further \$218 million capital investment. Our Smart Path Connect project – the rebuild and upgrade of 110 circuit

miles of 230 kV transmission circuits to 345 kV in Northern New York – reached the halfway point of construction, slightly ahead of schedule. The project remains on track for energization in December 2025.

- On our CLCPA Phase 1 investments, construction has progressed well on the first stage of our substation upgrade as part of the \$800 million Phase 1 funding for transmission upgrades. This also includes projects such as Inghams to Rotterdam circuit rebuilds (111 miles) to support 330 MW of incremental headroom capacity for renewable generation.
  - Our Upstate Upgrade also includes CLCPA Phase 2 investments, part of the \$2.1 billion Phase 2 funding which covers 400 circuit miles of 115 kV line rebuilds, five new substations and nine thermal upgrade projects, which were previously planned projects that have since been added to the CLCPA program due to their support in increasing our system capacity to connect additional clean generation. During the half-year, the Procurement and Construction RFP [covering Phase 2 investments] was issued to the market. This follows the awarding of engineering projects for transmission projects in October 2023.
- ***Continued industry group collaboration on climate resilience***
    - Collaborating with Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI) on their Climate READi program. Results to date include 33 technical papers and 5 software applications providing us with the latest information and best practices for improving climate resilience. Findings cover a wide array of topics spanning climate data, vulnerability assessments, and adaptation planning.
    - Engaging with the Center for Energy Advancement through Technological Innovation (CEATI) on climate resilience including participation in a panel discussion with utilities from North America and Europe to discuss their unique experiences and recommended approaches.
    - Participation with Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) in their effort to develop industry recognized resilience performance metrics that may be used to better assess the effectiveness of climate resilience projects and programs.
    - Supporting the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) effort to develop resilience preparedness metrics that may be used to better assess where we stand in preparing for the impacts of climate change.
  - ***Partnering with state and local officials to support economic development in New York***
    - During the half year, National Grid awarded \$4.8 million in economic development grants to support various projects across New York State.
    - These projects will help create or retain over 4,000 jobs in the communities we serve and will leverage almost \$200 million in other public and private investment.

Our ongoing commitment to customers and communities has continued during the half year. Building on the success of our Days of Service over the past three years, our shareholder-funded Project C initiative once again provided employees the opportunity to take part and demonstrate their commitment to the communities where we live and work. Our Day of Service took place on September 17<sup>th</sup>, with over 2,000 employees volunteering across 37 events throughout the state. Since launching Project C in September 2021, National Grid has supported 183,015 local businesses, launched 1,140 community partnerships, planted or donated 2,613 trees, trained over 6,000 workers to grow the clean energy workforce, and adopted 69 parks to revitalize gathering spaces. Employees have volunteered more than 90,000 hours in their New York communities. In addition, across New York State, the Company contributes more than \$5 million annually to community-based organizations through its Corporate Citizenship efforts, including the National Grid Foundation.

Best wishes for a very happy holiday season. We look forward to meeting with you in the new year and will send additional details about our January 29th meeting as the date gets closer.

Kind regards,  
*The National Grid Climate Resilience Team*

nationalgrid

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