



CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE PROTECTION AND RESILIENCE QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

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Governor Cuomo Announces Launch of \$40 Million NY Prize Microgrid Competition



Governor Andrew M. Cuomo, on February 12, announced the launch of the state's \$40 million energy competition, NY Prize, which is now accepting proposals for microgrids that meet energy and resiliency needs of local communities.

"Having a reliable source of power is crucial when extreme weather strikes – and by launching this microgrid competition, we're encouraging the development of more resilient energy networks across the State," Governor Cuomo said.

Microgrids are local energy networks that are able to separate from the larger electric grid during extreme weather events or emergencies, and provide power to the grid when needed. (Continued on pg.2)

John Melville Confirmed as DHSES Commissioner

On March 30, John Melville was unanimously confirmed by the NYS Senate to serve as Commissioner of the New York State Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services.

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NY Prize Microgrid Competition (*continued*)

Building these systems in regions prone to storm outages helps reactions to extreme weather by increasing power resiliency and reliability and improving energy efficiency. Microgrid technology can combine solar, wind, hydro or combined heat and power systems for local power generation and as such, plays an important role in the Governor's Reforming the Energy Vision plan. Alongside the Governor's energy plan, microgrids expand customer choice, ensure reliability and preserve the environment.

Eligible parties for NY Prize include local governments, community organizations, non-profit entities and for-profit companies. Potential projects must be integrated into utility networks and serve multiple customers, including at least one "critical infrastructure" customer, such as a hospital, police station, fire station or water treatment facilities.

Richard Kauffman, Chairman of Energy and Finance, Office of Governor Cuomo said, "Reforming the Energy Vision's groundbreaking initiatives will fundamentally transform the way electricity is distributed and used in New York State. This unprecedented effort is creating the power grid of the future and changing the way consumers buy and use energy. By introducing and embracing information technology and clean energy solutions, such as microgrids, millions of New Yorkers will benefit from a 21st century power grid, enabling them to better manage and reduce their energy costs."

The NY Prize competition will work with the private sector to spur new business models and community partnerships to increase reliability and reduce costs for consumers. The competition will prioritize project replicability and transparency as well as designate feasibility and design requirements.

The competition will be administered by the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA), with support from Governor Cuomo's Office of Storm Recovery.

John B. Rhodes, President and CEO of the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority said, "Governor Cuomo's NY Prize competition will help continue efforts to modernize the state's electric grid as part of Reforming the Energy Vision. Together with our partners -- utilities, local governments and the private sector -- we will help communities reduce the risk of power outages while investing in a more efficient power technology that also benefits the environment and takes pressure off the grid."

New York's energy leadership team is concluding a Statewide Winter Energy Tour in each of the ten Regional Economic Development Council regions. Hundreds of participants have joined state officials, business leaders and local community champions at these stops to learn about the State's energy overall policy, benefits of microgrids and details on NY Prize eligibility requirements.

The competition has three levels of funding: basic engineering studies, advanced engineering designs and support of the installation of a major on-site power system. The New York State Energy Research and Development Authority is currently seeking applications for the first phase, which will provide up to \$100,000 to as many as 25 to 30 communities to study the feasibility of microgrids in their locations.

Based on the results of the studies, up to 10 communities determined to be most suited for a microgrid will move onto the second phase, in which \$1 million will be made available to each community to conduct a detailed engineering design and business plan. Funding of up to \$7 million will be available in the third phase of the program to help support construction of a microgrid. Cost-sharing from the community is required for the second and third phases of this competition.

To apply for NY Prize, visit www.nyserda.ny.gov/microgrid.

Governor Cuomo Announces \$233 Million to Fund Counterterrorism and Emergency Preparedness

On April 8, 2015 Governor Andrew M. Cuomo announced more than \$233 million in federal grants that will support counterterrorism and emergency preparedness activities in counties across New York State. The funding, provided by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) through its Homeland Security Grant Program, supports regional preparedness efforts, including planning, organization, and training activities that are critical to sustaining and improving community prevention, protection, response, and recovery capabilities.

"New York continues to be a target for terrorism, and we must ensure there is adequate funding to prepare, plan and prevent," Governor Cuomo said. "This funding will help defend the state against those who wish to do harm and will support our first responders who are called upon when emergency strikes. Keeping New Yorkers safe is the top priority, and through these programs and exercises we will continue to work toward this goal."

The homeland security grants support exercises and training for first responders, equipment purchases, and other capabilities essential to keeping New Yorkers safe. Federal guidelines require that 25 percent of each county's total award be directed toward law enforcement terrorism prevention activities.

Priority projects include efforts that build upon Governor Cuomo's Citizen Preparedness Program, development of effective cyber security programs and policies, and continued coordination of emergency management planning efforts. The state Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services is also advancing regional partnerships and enhancing information sharing among law enforcement. The agency provides guidance and support to counties, which must submit detailed project plans in order to receive reimbursement-based grant contracts.

Key programs and grant amounts announced include:

- The Urban Areas Security Initiative, which is providing nearly \$181 million in funding to critical anti-terrorism programs in the New York City urban area, which includes New York City, the City of Yonkers, Westchester County, Nassau County, and Suffolk County.
- The State Homeland Security Program, which is providing more than \$52 million in funding to counties across the state and to New York City to prevent, protect against, respond to, and recover from acts of terrorism and other catastrophic disasters.

Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services Commissioner John Melville said, "The last several years have especially demonstrated the urgency in and importance of preparing for unexpected emergencies. These federal grants will go a long way in training first responders and supporting local communities to ensure they are ready to prevent acts of terrorism, respond to disasters, and protect New Yorkers in each corner of the state." For the full text of the press release including award amounts for each county click [here](#).

NYSERDA Releases Critical Facility Resiliency Report

A new report is available on Critical Facility Resiliency (located [here](#)), offering recommendations regarding the establishment of microgrids, and includes feasibility studies at five sites that have experienced extreme weather events, including three in New York City and Long Island. This report is the result of a 12-month study undertaken by NYSERDA, the Public Service Commission, and the Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services.

Under Governor Cuomo's initiative for Reforming the Energy Vision, New York State will spur clean energy innovation, bring in new investments, improve consumer choice while protecting the environment and energize New York's economy. Reforming the Energy Vision encompasses statewide initiatives such as the Clean Energy Fund and \$1 billion NY Green Bank to overcome market barriers and attract private capital. By empowering communities and creating jobs through programs like Community Solar NY and K-Solar for schools, the \$40 million NY-Prize competition for community microgrids and the \$1 billion NY-Sun Initiative, New York is leveraging statewide resources to integrate local energy resources and meet the needs of New York communities.

Upgrading EVAP

The New York State Office of Counter Terrorism Critical Infrastructure Unit (OCT-CI) recently obtained a new camera system to improve their Enhanced Visual Assessment Program (EVAP). This new camera, called Civetta 360, brings faster image captures and higher resolution to the virtual tour products. Perhaps more importantly, the camera is ideally suited for complicated lighting situations; it takes 30 images and digitally combines them into a single image that can automatically adjust to changing light conditions to insure that both highlights and shadows retain full detail. Unlike the older system, the new system automatically captures a 360-degree view without human intervention. This allows OCT-CI to capture key areas of assessments in much higher detail, increasing the usability of the end product for users. The image below illustrates the difference in image quality for key areas the new system allows. The new camera is on the left, while the older system is on the right.



Milestone Achieved: All 50 States Accredited to Participate in PCII Program

The Protected Critical Infrastructure Information (PCII) Program, authorized by the Critical Infrastructure Information Act of 2002, is the only Federal program that protects and facilitates the sharing of sensitive critical infrastructure information about the nation's critical assets and key resources. In December 2014, the PCII Program achieved its goal of accrediting all 50 states to participate in the PCII Program.

"It's an important milestone," said PCII Program Manager Tammy Barbour, "because it allows homeland security partners across all 50 states to access and use PCII in Department of Homeland Security initiatives relating to interdependency studies, vulnerability assessments, and risk management plans for critical infrastructure protection at all levels of government." With all 50 states accredited, the Department of Homeland Security analysts' use of PCII enhances the Department's national security view of the Nation's critical assets as they integrate PCII with other relevant data. Now, partners at all levels of government are able to utilize PCII to facilitate the sharing of critical infrastructure information.

Leveraging PCII to Support Critical Infrastructure Protection Efforts

The homeland faces persistent and evolving natural and man-made threats. The ability to perform predictive analysis to understand the vulnerabilities that impact critical assets is vital to sustaining the flow of goods and services within the United States. The Protected Critical Infrastructure Information (PCII) Program is an information protection regime that fosters public-private partnerships by assisting all levels of government with obtaining critical infrastructure information to support homeland security duties.

The collected data can be used to analyze supply chains, as well as infrastructure and system dependencies and interdependencies. PCII can also be utilized to support National Special Security Event planning for National Political Conventions, dignitary visits, and high-level sporting events, such as the Super Bowl. The PCII Program has also proven to be a valuable tool in support of regional resiliency and response efforts, resulting in:

- More than 5,000 facilities that have reduced or modified identified vulnerability gaps since 2009.
- Notifications and warnings which prompted the mitigation of various cyber incidents.
- The health sector's regional analysis of healthcare readiness to respond to incidents, such as Hurricane Katrina, Super Storm Sandy, and influenza studies.

Visit the [PCII Website](#) to learn more about how to can leverage PCII to support your mission.

Enhanced Cybersecurity Services Sector Outreach

The Enhanced Cybersecurity Services (ECS) program shares sensitive and classified government-vetted cyber threat information with qualified Commercial Service Providers who use that information to protect their customers that are validated critical infrastructure entities. The ECS program recently reached out to all of the critical infrastructure sectors to answer questions and raise awareness about the program during December's IP Divisions and SSA conference call. To continue this effort, the ECS program will be reaching out to each of the 16 critical infrastructure sectors individually to strengthen these important relationships and to learn more about how the ECS program can assist each sector. As a part of this dialogue and outreach, the ECS program welcomes an opportunity to attend upcoming events where an ECS program brief would be beneficial to your sector. To find out how the ECS program can assist your sector, please contact the ECS Program Management Office at ECS_Program@hq.dhs.gov.

For questions or more information about the program, please visit the [ECS website](#).

Congress Strengthens Chemical Facility Security Regulatory Program

On December 18, 2014, the President signed into law H.R. 4007, the "Protecting and Securing Chemical Facilities from Terrorist Attacks Act of 2014," which recodifies and reauthorizes the Chemical Facility Anti-Terrorism Standards (CFATS) program for four years. The CFATS program, which assesses high-risk chemical facilities, promotes collaborative security planning, and ensures that covered facilities meet risk-based performance standards, had been reauthorized annually through the appropriations process since its inception in 2007. Housed in the Office of Infrastructure Protection, part of DHS's National Protection and Programs Directorate, CFATS has made significant progress in improving security at the Nation's high-risk chemical facilities, particularly over the last two years.

"With the passage of the Protecting and Securing Chemical Facilities from Terrorist Attacks Act of 2014, the CFATS program ushers in a new era," said Dave Wulf, Infrastructure Security Compliance Division Director. "Long-term authorization will provide industry with the stability that companies need to move forward with investments in CFATS-related security measures and sends a clear signal to facilities that may be seeking to avoid their obligation to report dangerous chemicals that the CFATS program is here to stay."

The Act lays the foundation for continued maturation of the CFATS program, adding new provisions while preserving most of the existing regulations. Significantly, the Act establishes an expedited approval program, which will allow certain chemical facilities to move to an approved and implemented site security plan more quickly.

The Act requires the Department of Homeland Security to issue guidance for the Expedited Approval Program within 180 days of enactment, which falls in June of this year. The Act also contains new requirements for implementation of the Department's Risk-Based Performance Standard on personnel surety, which requires that individuals with access to high-risk chemicals be vetted for terrorist ties. Additional Department enforcement authorities and whistleblower protections were also included. Additional information about the program can be found on the [CFATS website](#).

[Read the full language of the Act.](#)

IP Gateway Update

Due to several major capability updates and on-line training changes, release of the Infrastructure Protection Gateway to potential state and local users in New York State has been postponed. State administrators are currently reviewing and testing the system changes (released on February 27, 2015) to ensure the new capabilities function effectively. Once review and testing has been completed formal roll-out to identified customers will begin.

Below is a brief description of two major capabilities which were added:

Digital Library: This resource provides a single interface where users can access and share items such as policy documents, security and resilience information and other information specific to their critical infrastructure needs.

Events and Incidents Tracker: This tool allows a user to leverage data collected on infrastructure within the system to aid in the management of an event and/or incident. The capability focuses on consequence, vulnerability, and threat information, and is designed to make pertinent information accessible when and where it is needed for planning and response purposes, and to enhance situational awareness at all levels of government.

For more information or to request access to the IP Gateway portal please contact John McNamara at john.mcnamara@dhses.ny.gov.

We Want to Hear From You!

For feedback on this newsletter and to suggest topics for upcoming newsletters, email us at CIP@dhses.ny.gov