



MAIN STREET REVITALIZATION PROGRAM

Note to state, regional, and local economic developers: If you intend to use this program as part of an overall incentive offer to a company, you must submit a written request to National Grid's Economic Development Department in advance of the project announcement.

Program Summary

National Grid's Upstate New York service territory includes a substantial number of small to medium sized urban centers and main street corridors that possess unrealized potential and are located where National Grid often has existing utility infrastructure and capacity. This program is designed to assist communities in promoting "smart growth" and private sector investment in central business districts and commercial corridors which helps their competitive viability to attract investment, and capitalize on their distinct development potential.

The **Main Street Revitalization Program** provides matching grants to eligible property owners, municipalities and non-for-profit development corporations undertaking efforts to revitalize critical main streets and commercial corridors.

Application requests may include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Development of pre-construction documents that advance an existing community accepted design plan, site preparation, and construction of commercial and industrial adaptive re-use projects; and
- Renovation and rehabilitation of commercial, industrial or mixed-use buildings

Priority projects will be sustainable and take advantage of energy efficiency and renewable energy initiatives. This program is not intended to provide grants for civic facilities (*e.g.* sports and recreation complexes, libraries, public buildings, or other municipal amenities). Projects must be located in an underutilized central business district/commercial area/corridor. The building itself should be vacant or within a targeted area as specified in the eligibility requirements below. Projects must demonstrate potential job creation. Those projects that demonstrate the ability to stimulate ancillary public and private investment will be reviewed favorably in the evaluation process. Applications showing commitments from public funding resources such as the NYS Downtown Revitalization Initiative, NYS Housing & Community Renewal, Restore NY Programs, and Empire State Development are encouraged.

Minimum Program Requirements: *Please review the following program requirements and guidelines carefully. They will help you decide whether you want to apply for this program.*

Note: Program assistance is only available to customers in good standing, located within National Grid's Upstate New York franchise territory. Applicants must be current in payments with National Grid or have executed a deferred payment agreement with the Company.

To be eligible for this program, the **applicant** must be:

- ❑ A municipality and/or its authorized development corporation; **or**
- ❑ A 501(c)(3), 501(c)(6), or 501(c)(4) corporation, working in tandem with a municipality and/or its Industrial Development Agency or Local Development Corporation; **or**
- ❑ Be the owner or developer of the eligible site with the endorsement of the municipality.

To be eligible for this program, the **project** must:

- ❑ Receive electric or natural gas service on a commercial rate from National Grid;
- ❑ Be located in a central business district or commercial area/corridor;
- ❑ Have existing electric or natural gas infrastructure that is underutilized;
- ❑ Show evidence of private sector job creation/retention and capital investment; **and**
- ❑ Reside in a building/site that is completely vacant OR is located within a targeted redevelopment area in which at least fifty percent (50%) of the commercial or mixed use buildings are 100% vacant. The subject/applicant building must be at least 90% vacant.

Funding and Eligibility Guidelines

Program funding and parameters are established annually by National Grid. Grants are available on a continual basis until all funding is expended or until the end of National Grid's current rate agreement. Funding is released to a grant award recipient only after the recipient has met all conditions of the program. In all circumstances, funding should be viewed by the applicant as a reimbursement for work completed following grant approval in the form of an award letter.

The grant award recipient should expect to execute a Funding Agreement with National Grid. The Agreement will outline the expectations of the grant program and the conditions upon which funds will be released.

Grant amounts listed are the maximum allowable award for each program. All applications are evaluated on a variety of factors. Some applications may not result in the maximum grant award.

If you are applying to more than one program for the same project, you must indicate that clearly on the application.

Under no circumstance will funding be released after the expiration of the Company's current rate agreement or without prior written consent from National Grid.

- ❑ Funding for eligible mixed-use projects will be appropriately scaled based on the proportion of commercial versus residential square footage and/or construction costs.

- Grant amounts will be determined based on the size of the **total** capital investment you are making in your project/facility (including energy and non-energy related investments) as follows:

<u>Total Capital Investment</u>	<u>Total Avail Funding not to Exceed:</u>
\$50,000 to \$250,000	\$25,000
\$250,000 to \$1 Million	\$50,000
\$1 Million to \$5 Million	\$100,000
\$5 Million to \$25 Million	\$250,000
Above \$25 Million **	\$500,000

**In order to qualify for highest level of funding the building must be:

- 100% vacant for more than three (3) years; and
 - greater than 250,000 sq ft.
- Program funds may only be used to offset fifty percent (50%) of costs (1:1 funding match required).
 - Project must show evidence that a comprehensive assessment of energy efficiency measures was fully investigated and provide documentation pertaining to any completed or pending applications for energy efficiency incentives.

How to Apply

To apply for the Main Street Revitalization Program please:

- Complete the program application online; and
- Upload all required documentation as noted at the end of your online application.

If you need assistance in completing the application, please contact Karen Mousaw via email at Karen.Mousaw@nationalgrid.com.