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Aligning the Blue Plains Microgrid project scope with Justice 40 outcomes and securing federal funds for project implementation in partnership with external stakeholders.




## 22Q3 GRID MODERNIZATION 12 MONTH SOLUTION:

### "Don't Stop the Flow: D.A.R.E."

- M1:** Design sprint: microgrid scope & J40 — launch stakeholder engagement with key jurisdictions; include data needs
- M2:** Align to notice(s) of funding
- M3:** Recommend strategies and solutions
- M4:** Engage & Educate — develop presentation materials


- TABLE # 4

# SIGNATURES NEEDED:



**Concept Report**

**Electrical Improvement and Microgrid Implementation at Blue Plains Advanced Wastewater Treatment Plant**



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**ELECTRICAL IMPROVEMENTS AND MICROGRID IMPLEMENTATION AT BLUE PLAINS ADVANCED WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT**

*Subject/Purpose: To achieve DC Metro's Climate, Health, Resilience and Equity goals, aligning the Blue Plains Microgrid project with Justice 40 outcomes and securing federal funds in partnership with external stakeholders is critical in successful implementation of this project.*

DC Water is responsible for delivering drinking water and wastewater services to over 700,000 residents, schools and businesses across the nation's capital, and wastewater treatment service for 1.6 million people in neighboring counties of Maryland and Virginia, in addition to the thousands of visitors that come to the District annually. Our slogan, "Water is Life," not only speaks to the essential life service we provide but is also at the core of who we are and the work we do. It is the interconnection of our environmental efforts, economic, and social initiatives that drive our sustainability priorities. The goal of providing these services is only possible through our Blue Plains Advanced Wastewater Treatment Plant (AWTP), one of the largest wastewater treatment plants in the world.

In summer of 2022, DC Water was invited to participate in a challenge sponsored by the Advanced Energy Group (AEG) to address Critical Infrastructure, Resilience, and DC's Carbon and Equity Goals. At AEG, industry leaders present real challenges they are facing and the one with the most pressing needs to be overcome is selected by the attendees. In a robust round of various challenge and solution statements, DC Water won with: "Electrical Improvements and Microgrid Implementation at Blue Plains Advanced Wastewater Treatment Plant" challenge. The AEG DC Water Team began the 12-months journey to not only create a challenge statement that supports the District of Columbia's Climate, Health, and Equity Goals but it also aligns with DC Water's Blueprint 2.0 Organizational Imperative and President Biden's Justice40 Goals.

DC Water is embarking on a 6 year, multi-million-dollar project to upgrade and modernize the electrical distribution system of the Blue Plains Advanced Water Treatment Plant (AWTP), to integrate more distributed energy and renewable resources, with the end goal of creating a microgrid. The microgrid will enhance the reliability and resilience of the operations of Blue Plains AWTP and help achieve the sustainability goals of DC Water. It is consistent with DC Water's continuing commitment to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and will support economic growth for the region, enhance workforce development opportunities and create small and diverse business opportunities. The successful implementation of this challenging project will require active involvement of critical stakeholders such as you, to obtain strategic input and support to achieve the necessary funding.

To address this significant challenge, DC Water requires a comprehensive strategy to be developed in cooperation with a cross-section of key stakeholders to provide continuous support for the implementation of framework strategy which addresses impending challenges and assist in securing adequate funding for the project. DC Water recognizes that a solution that is driven by equity to attain sustainable solutions requires all of us, our ingenuity, and our strong commitment and dedicated efforts. Attached is the concept report of the project, which serves as the roadmap and establishes various milestones for project development.

In your review of the attached Concept Report and supporting slides, you will note project inception 7 months ago, DC Water has established working teams and has been pursuing purposeful partnerships with stakeholders. The AEG DC Water Team recognizes this objective cannot be completed without your advocacy. DC Water supports a process that provides for continued collaboration with key stakeholders to assist strategy development and to obtain your strong support for helping us secure funding for this important project. The AEG DC Water Team appreciates your interest in seeing this project succeed. We look forward to your support and collaboration on this project. More information about the project can be found on the attached concept paper. To support this project, kindly fill out page 02 of this letter and return it to Mr. Emanuel Briggs via email at [emmanuel.briggs@dewater.com](mailto:emmanuel.briggs@dewater.com).

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,  
 AEG DC Water Team

