

## ENERGY TECHNOLOGY INNOVATION PARTNERSHIP PROJECT

# Making Coastal Towns and Islands Leaders in Affordable and Reliable Power

Rural coastal towns and islands face unique energy challenges that drive up costs and limit economic opportunities. The Energy Technology Innovation Partnership Project (ETIPP) works with existing U.S. Department of Energy efforts to build capacity, leverage expertise, and support rural and traditional economies to be innovative leaders in reliable and affordable power.

### **THE PROBLEM: Leaving Rural Towns Behind in Energy Technology Investment**

Rural coastal towns have long been the backbone of American values and traditions, with heritage industries driving local economies and supporting communities. Despite their importance, these rural places have often been left out of the technological opportunities given to more populous areas to innovate their electricity infrastructure. ETIPP addresses these challenges by partnering expert engineers with rural coastal towns and islands seeking reliable and affordable power to support their economies.

Many rural towns are at the end of the electricity grid; they are the first to lose power and the last to have it restored. This unreliable power puts the work and lives of rural people at risk, threatening the economies and the long-term viability of rural places. People in small towns feel a responsibility to support their neighbors while also maintaining their independence with integrity. They want electric grids that support their traditional self-reliance by tapping into cheap and affordable American power technology. ETIPP makes this possible.

### **THE SOLUTION: Supporting Rural Values and Economies with Energy Technology Innovation**

ETIPP is a collaboration between regional organizations, rural towns and the U.S. national laboratories to address local energy needs while improving reliability and enhancing energy security. Projects are locally led and grounded in the economic realities of rural coastal towns and islands and their electrical grids. Established in 2019, ETIPP has supported 57 local governments, helping rural towns learn from shared challenges. The project supports local leaders to:

- Develop socioeconomic analyses that prioritize the cheapest and most reliable power;
- Work with technoeconomic and engineering experts to analyze needs and understand the limits of modern technologies and identify alternative solutions that support American power;
- Address the common challenges that hinder energy savings and explore solutions to support energy independence, reliability and affordability; and
- Gain technological expertise that empowers rural coastal towns and islands to be national and global leaders in grid innovation.

For more information, please contact Kate Klibansky at [kklibansky@islandinstitute.org](mailto:kklibansky@islandinstitute.org)

### **MAKING ENERGY INNOVATION LOCAL**

ETIPP regional partners, from Maine to Alaska, are people who understand what it means to live and work in the towns experiencing these challenges. They know the unique hardships and needs of rural coastal towns and islands, enabling innovation and the development of strong, reliable infrastructure that does not neglect rural areas. These supporting organizations help municipalities across the U.S. by leveraging shared values and technical expertise.

ETIPP is not just about technical support: the program is based on information exchanges that support local governments and help the U.S. national labs understand and develop tools for rural America. The project empowers local government leaders and partners to understand technology and optimize resource use allowing for self-reliance and locally driven solutions. ETIPP innovations keep the lights on and our heritage economies prospering, supporting the coastal and island communities that are the heart of America.

**Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribe** Washington  
**Bainbridge Island** Washington  
**Makah Tribe** Washington  
**Nooksack Tribe** Washington  
**Swinomish Indian Tribal Community** Washington  
**Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs** Oregon  
**Port Orford** Oregon  
**Nez Perce Tribe** Idaho

## ENERGY RESILIENCE

The ability to anticipate, prepare for, and adapt to changing conditions and withstand, respond to, and recover rapidly from energy disruptions.

**Native Village of Kotzebue** Alaska  
**Galena** Alaska  
**Kotlik** Alaska  
**Native Village of Scammon Bay** Alaska  
**McGrath** Alaska  
**Dillingham** Alaska  
**Nikolski and St. George** Alaska  
**Wainright** Alaska  
**Juneau** Alaska  
**Alaska Longline Fishermen's Association** Sitka, Alaska  
**Sitka** Alaska  
**Ouzinkie** Alaska  
**Iktigig** Alaska  
**Organized Village of Saxman** Alaska

**Mount Desert Island** Maine  
**Deer Isle and Stonington** Maine  
**Islesboro** Maine  
**Chebeague Island** Maine  
**Fishers Island** New York  
**Shelter Island** New York  
**Beaver Island** Michigan  
**Passamaquoddy Tribe at Pleasant Point** Maine  
**Eastport** Maine  
**Washington County** Maine  
**Cranberry Isles** Maine  
**Brooklin** Maine  
**Oak Bluffs, Edgartown, and Tisbury** Massachusetts  
**Aquinnah and Chilmark** Massachusetts  
**Block Island** Rhode Island  
**Tangier** Virginia  
**Nags Head** North Carolina  
**Ocracoke Island** North Carolina

**COHORTS**

- 2021
- 2022
- 2023
- 2024

**Key West** Florida

**Kauai** Hawaii  
**Hui o Hau'ula** Hawaii  
**Honolulu** Hawaii  
**Waianae** Hawaii  
**Molokai** Hawaii  
**University of Hawaii** Hawaii  
**Upcountry Maui** Hawaii  
**Kahikinui** Hawaii

**Cooperativa Hidroeléctrica de la Montaña** Puerto Rico  
**Vieques** Puerto Rico  
**Comunidad Toro Negro, Ciales** Puerto Rico  
**Playa de Ponce** Puerto Rico  
**La Margarita, Salinas** Puerto Rico

**Guam Power Authority** Guam