

Build Kansas Fund | Fiscal Year 2024 Application Package | Memo



To: Senator Ty Masterson, Chair, Build Kansas Advisory Committee
Murl Riedel, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Shauna Wake, Office of the Kansas State Treasurer

From: Matthew Volz, Executive Director, Kansas Infrastructure Hub

RE: Build Kansas Fund Application #2024-034-40101d-Victory

Date: April 12, 2024

Attached, please find an application made to the Build Kansas Fund by Victory Electric Cooperative Association, Inc. The application packet includes the following items:

- Coversheet – provides a high-level overview of the application including a unique identification number, page 1 of 19 of the Build Kansas Fund Application Package.
- Build Kansas Fund Application – includes information submitted with the Build Kansas Fund Application, pages 2-7. Page 7 provides the table of funding sources.
- Attachments – copy of BIL application, pages 8-19.

Project Overview

Under the Preventing Outages and Enhancing the Resilience of the Electric Grid - Section 40101(d), the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) provides grants to States to improve the resilience of their electric grid against disruptive events. The Kansas Corporation Commission (KCC) received more than \$13.3M from the DOE for fiscal years 2022 and 2023. During the application period, KCC received 31 submissions, with more than \$40.1M in project funding requests. Ultimately, the agency selected 11 applicants across Kansas with Build Kansas Fund requests totaling \$5.84M, unlocking \$12.08M in federal funding.

Victory Electric seeks funding from the Kansas Corporation Commission (KCC) through the 40101d program. The Victory Electric South Dodge City Resiliency Project will install devices called 'trip savers' in approximately 325 locations capable of reducing the number of blown fuses caused by storms, wildlife, and vegetation, ultimately ensuring the resiliency of power infrastructure.

This opportunity is a pass-through discretionary BIL program with a local match requirement of 48.33%. The entity is requesting \$715,395.43 from the Build Kansas Fund. This request has the potential to unlock \$1,480,128.57 in federal funds.

The State's internal deadline for 40101d applications to Kansas Corporation Commission was December 29, 2023. This is an ongoing Federal program; however, it would be advantageous for the State to submit its application package as soon as possible. This Build Kansas Fund application was received on March 5, 2024, and subsequently deemed acceptable for this program.

Build Kansas Fund Steering Committee Recommendation

The Build Kansas Fund Steering Committee reviewed this application on April 3, 2024, following a successful completeness check. The Steering Committee **RECOMMENDS APPROVAL** of Build Kansas Funding to the Build Kansas Advisory Committee for final advice.

Build Kansas Fund | Fiscal Year 2024 Application Package | Coversheet



Build Kansas Fund Application Number	2024-034-40101d-Victory
Project Name	South Dodge Resiliency Project
Entity Type	Non Profit
Economic Development District (EDD) Planning Commission	Great Plains Development Inc.
Infrastructure Sector(s)	Energy
BIL Program	Preventing Outages and Enhancing the Resilience of the Electric Grid – 40101(d)
BIL Program Type	Discretionary (State Pass-Through)
BIL Application Deadline	12/29/2023
Build Kansas Fund Request	\$715,395.43
Technical Assistance Received	General No
	BIL Application No
	Build Kansas Fund Application Yes
	Other (Brief Description): Support on application and budget submission
Application Notes	Build Kansas Fund contribution of \$715,395.43 will unlock \$1,480,128.57 in federal BIL funding. <i>The application for BIL funding was submitted to KCC for review and approval and received DOE support prior to submitting for BKF.</i>

Steering Committee Funding Recommendation	4/3/2024 Recommend
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Advisory Committee Target Review	DATE Recommend or Deny
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Advisory Committee Funding Recommendation	DATE Approve or Deny
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Completeness Review Data

Date Build Kansas Application Received:	3/05/2024
Date Of Completeness Check:	3/05/2024
Date Forwarded to Steering Committee:	4/02/2024

Title	Victory Electric Coop Assn Inc	03/05/2024
	by Angela Unruh in Build Kansas Fund Fiscal Year 2024 Application	id. 45798361
	aunruh@victoryelectric.net	

Original Submission	03/05/2024
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Score	n/a
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Part 1: Applicant Information

The name of the entity applying for the Build Kansas Fund:	Victory Electric Coop Assn Inc
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Project Name:	South Dodge Resiliency project
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Entity type:	Non-Profit
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Applicant Contact Name:	Angela Unruh
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Applicant Contact Position/Title:	CFO
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Applicant Contact Telephone Number:	+16203717712
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Applicant Contact Email Address:	aunruh@victoryelectric.net
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Applicant Contact Address:	3230 N 14th Ave
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Applicant Contact Address Line 2 (optional):	
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Applicant Contact City:	Dodge City
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Applicant Contact State:	Kansas
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Applicant Contact Zip Code:	67801
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Is the Project Contact the same as the Applicant Contact? Yes

Part 2: Build Kansas Fund - Eligibility Criteria

Certify that you are pursuing a viable Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) funding opportunity for which your entity is eligible: Yes

Certify that the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) funding opportunity you are pursuing has a required non-federal match component: Yes

What is the primary county that the project will occur in? Ford County

The Build Kansas Fund is intended to support Kansas-based infrastructure projects. Please provide a list of all the zip codes this project will be located in, along with an estimated percent [%] of the project located in that zip code. For example, if seeking funding for road infrastructure, provide a rough percent of the roads expected in each zip code:

[Zip Code Percentage.xlsx](#)

Part 3: Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) - Grant Application Information
Please Note: This information is related to the federal Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) funding opportunity to which you will apply. This is NOT information for the Build Kansas Match Fund.

Please enter the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) funding opportunity title that the entity is applying for: PREVENTING OUTAGES AND ENHANCING THE RESILIENCE OF THE ELECTRIC GRID

What is the funding agency for this Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) funding opportunity? U.S. Department of Energy

What is the Assistance Listing Number (ALN) for this Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) funding opportunity? 81.254 - Section 40101(d)

What is the application due date for this Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) funding opportunity? 3/15/2024

What is the federal fiscal year for this Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) funding opportunity? 2024

Enter the amount of funding being applied for, from the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) funding opportunity: \$1,480,128.57

Enter the required non-federal match percentage: 48.3333

Part 4: Build Kansas Fund - Match Application Information

Enter the non-federal match amount being requested from the Build Kansas Fund: \$715,395.43

Is the project able to move forward with a lesser match amount than requested? Yes

If you are awarded less match than the amount requested, at what amount would your project NOT be able to move forward? 0.0

Expected breakdown of funding sources to support the project: Enter the funding source and projected amount from each source to support this project:

[Kansas+DOT+table.xlsx](#)

Part 5: Build Kansas Fund - Means Test

Confirm that there are no available funding sources currently planned to go unused by your entity that could be leveraged for this project: Yes

Confirm there are no available American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) or Coronavirus State & Local Fiscal Recovery Fund monies that could be used for this match: Yes

Confirm that you have explored other readily available funding sources (federal or non-federal) to be used for this match: Yes

Briefly describe your efforts to find other available funding sources for this project: To obtain the non-federal funds required to move forward with this project, should they be lesser than the amount of Build Kansas Funds requested in this application, Victory Electric would be required to apply for and draw down loans from a private lender at current interest rates. The amount of interest expense would add to the cost of the overall project. Rates today appear to be in the 4.30%-4.75% range which adds an additional \$30,000 each year, at minimum, for 15-30 years.

Part 6: Additional Information

Please upload a copy of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) program application associated with this request OR a 2-page executive summary providing an overview of the project:

[Submission__South_Dodge_Resiliency_project.pdf](#)

Provide any additional information about this project (optional):

Part 7: Terms and Conditions

Understanding of Fund Release Requirements: checked

Understanding of Use of Funds: checked

Understanding of Reporting Requirements: checked

Authority to Make Grant Application: checked

Persons and Titles: Angela Unruh
The following persons are responsible for making this Build Kansas Fund application.

Position/Title: Chief Financial Officer

Additional: Shane Laws

Position/Title: Chief Executive Officer

Additional: Denzil McGill

Position/Title: Chief Information Officer

Additional: Rob Henry

Position/Title: Vice President of Engineering

Internal Form

Score n/a

Pre-Award Information:

Post-Award Information:

Deviation Report:

Source	Amount	Zip Code	% of project in zip code
BIL Federal Funds (applied for)	\$ 1,480,128.57	67801	100% in Kansas
Build Kansas Funds (non-federal match)	\$ 715,395.43		
Additional Project Contribution (if applicable)			
TOTAL PROJECT COST	\$ 2,195,524.00		

Title **South Dodge Resiliency project** 12/29/2023
by **Angela Unruh** in **SECTION 40101(d):** id. 45046326
Preventing Outages & Enhancing the Resilience
of the Electric Grid
aunruh@victoryelectric.net

Original Submission 12/29/2023

Section 1: Applicant Information

Entity name: Victory Electric Coop Assn Inc

Entity Type: Distribution Provider

Entity address: 3230 N 14th Ave
PO Box 1335
Dodge City
Kansas
67801
US

Employer Identification Number (EIN): 48-0499309

Unique Entity Identifier (UEI): N3EFMTACG5K7

Please upload verification of eligible entity size and documentation of annual sales per year:

[12.31.21_Annual_Sales.pdf](#)

[12.31.22_Annual_Sales.pdf](#)

EIA Table

[2021 Utility Bundled Sales to Ultimate Customers List .xlsx](#)

Project Manager name: Angela Unruh

Project Manager phone number: +16202272139

Project Manager e-mail address: aunruh@victoryelectric.net

IRS Form W-9:

[W-9_VEC_2023.pdf](#)

[2022_Final_Issued_Audit_Report.pdf](#)

Please acknowledge whether your entity has ever submitted an application, similar in nature, to the DOE under BIL Section 40101c, DE-FOA-002740, Grid Resilience and Innovation Partnerships (GRIP):

Yes
Victory applied for 40101(c) only. Our application was denied. This current 40101(d) application is specific to projects that will improve our disadvantage communities in our territory.

If you selected yes, please describe the differences between the 40101(d) and 40101(c) applications.

Section 2: Project Description and Scope

Project Name: South Dodge Resiliency project

Project type: Hardening of power lines, facilities, substations, of other systems

Project description and scope:

The South Dodge Resiliency project is a low-cost approach to address reliability and resiliency problems in a disadvantaged area of Ford County, KS. Specifically, Victory Electric Coop Assn Inc. (Victory Electric) has identified approximately 325 locations and 3,851 services that could benefit from the installation of devices called 'Trip Savers'. These are low-cost, programmable reclosers capable of reducing the number of blown fuses related to faults caused by storms, wildlife, and vegetation. With an estimated 80% of faults caused by temporary contacts, Trip Savers would result in fewer momentary blinks across large areas and a reduction of outages caused by substation breakers.

These devices will be installed on Victory Electric's 13.8 kV distribution system serving a mostly residential and small business area near Dodge City, KS. Primarily on lateral circuits, Trip Savers isolate faults to single-phase circuits only affecting the immediate services. Because of their relatively small size, these devices act as a 'smart fuse', capable of protecting the distribution system from substantial faults and preventing longer outages caused by temporary contact.

Grant funds will purchase Trip Savers and offset the cost of Victory Electric employees and contractors to install them. Our deployment process would include an engineering analysis study to determine the most efficient placement of devices. The protection coordination study will ensure the new devices will coordinate with other protective devices on the distribution system. These designs will undergo review by our Professional Engineer before their transition to a work order. Once equipment is ordered and received, our operations personnel will be trained in proper installation procedures and placed on an installation schedule. It is estimated three out of four installations would be straightforward, requiring only two hours to complete with a crew of two members. An estimated twenty-five percent would require extensive coordination and involve the re-configuration of infrastructure necessary to accommodate the Trip Savers along with existing circuits, lighting fixtures, third party attachments, guying, etc. Some installations will require the support structure to be replaced to meet design standards for strength and resiliency. These may require a four-man-crew up to two days of labor to complete. Total project completion is expected to require thirty-six months to complete.

Victory Electric has applied for funding as part of the Department of Energy (DOE) Grid Resilience and Innovation Partnerships (GRIP) Program to help support this area of Ford County, however the projects included in those grant applications are intended to replace or reconstruct the feeders connecting this geographic area to the substation sources or to provide alternative sources of power. Those projects are multi-million-dollar contracts requiring several months to complete and do not include installations of Trip Saver devices. These devices will enhance the projects as outlined in the DOE GRIP Program applications. Further, Trip Saver devices and the scope of their use as described in this grant application are not currently included in Victory's Construction Work Plan (CWP) as approved by the Board of Trustees.

Project funding need: Victory Electric's service territory is currently experiencing tremendous growth. To meet these needs, Victory Electric is investing significant capital in new infrastructure to accommodate the increased load forecasts because of the new families and businesses moving to our service territory. The existing four-year CWP is an estimated \$49.87 million, which is approximately 29% more than the previous CWP of \$37.18 million. With these projected capital expenditures, Victory Electric is not fiscally capable of addressing all our concerns simultaneously, all while maintaining prices at an affordable rate. Projects to address our larger concerns include more resilient feeder circuits, redundant power sources, and distribution hardening. Trip Savers would be a significant additional benefit to the cooperative overall as well as the 3,851 services in the disadvantaged areas in South Dodge City.

Through analysis and community engagement, Victory Electric recognizes the outage discrepancies in the targeted area for this project. The structures in this area are aging and need significant investment due to neglect from the previous utility owners, prior to Victory's purchase in 2005. This area, if evaluated through the lens of an investor-owned utility, would not meet the requirements of such a significant investment due to the lack of monetary returns. However, as a not-for-profit electric cooperative, our focus is on the members and not the margins. We feel like this project is a significant step towards enhancing the reliability of service in this area. Through this grant, these improvements can have an immediate, positive impact. Without it, such a project will take years to complete as Victory Electric is already challenged with meeting the demands of the unprecedented growth in Dodge City and the surrounding area.

The area targeted for this project is entirely incorporated in disadvantaged communities as identified by the screening tool. Tract No. 20057962101, 20057962102 and 20057962000 will be directly benefited from this project.

Provide historical and post project estimated interruption frequency and duration data, if known.

Over the previous four years, Victory Electric has an average SAIDI of 85.6. These include Winter storm Uri, among other large outage events. SAIFI metrics for the same period are 0.6778. Victory Electric uses an Outage Management System to capture outage metrics and for member interactions when reporting outages.

Victory Electric estimates overall SAIDI and SAIFI metrics will decrease because of our deployment to 82.4 and 0.6394, respectively. For the immediate areas affected by this project, we believe the impact will be significantly greater, improving by as much as 20% for SAIDI and 30% for SAIFI. These are conservative estimates based upon a similar project as reported by Bandera Electric Cooperative in South Texas.

Provide pro rata customer impact of total project cost.

With a total project cost of \$2,195,254, the pro rata service impact would be \$108.16. For just services within the service territory of this project, the pro rata would be \$570.05 each.

Provide number of customers to be impacted by the project and percentage of impacted customers to total customers in the disadvantaged or underserved community.

This project will directly impact approximately 3,851 services, which represents about 18.9% of our total services throughout Ford County and the surrounding areas. All 3,851 (100%) of the impacted services reside within the Disadvantaged Community areas identified by the Department of Energy.

Section 4: Complete Budget and Narrative

Award amount requested: \$1,480,162.0

Matching funds to be provided: \$715,362.0

Budget (Total Costs):

[Budget Template DRAFT.xlsx](#)

Project budget upload (optional):

Project budget narrative: If awarded, Victory Electric anticipates the successful completion of the project as designed to finish within an estimated thirty-six months, excluding any potential delays due to unforeseen circumstances such as supply chain delays or catastrophic weather events.

Victory Electric's first phase includes hiring a professional engineering firm to perform a sectionalizing and protection coordination study. This study will enable Victory Electric to correctly configure our distribution system to make the most efficient use of the deployment. By sectionalizing our system correctly, outages to members will be minimized when temporary faults occur. When properly coordinated with existing protection devices, Trip Savers can prevent minor outages from becoming large outages. Victory Electric believes such a study will take 3 months or less to complete and has committed \$10,000 towards its engagement.

In parallel with the Phase I study, Victory Electric will secure agreement(s) with contractor(s) to install the devices. Internal analysis has determined about one-quarter of the installs will be more complex due to the nature of the components already attached to the support structure. These installations are designated for contractor work. Of these, about half will require the replacement of the support structure itself and may require multiple days to complete. The remaining installations will be simple in comparison, needing only a two-person crew to complete. Victory Electric intends to complete these installations with its own construction crews.

Phase I Budget Total: \$10,000

The first equipment order signifies the beginning of Phase II. Victory

Electric partners with Border States electrical distributor for many of our electric supplies. Border States is one of the largest 100% employee-owned companies in the United States. We believe this partnership will prove beneficial for this project as Border States can negotiate bulk purchase pricing through its extensive distribution network. A preliminary check with a Border States representative indicates sufficient manufacturing and supply chain mechanisms to ensure our project will be successful. Trip Savers are manufactured by S&C Electric Company in Florida and meet manufacturing requirements for USA goods. At an estimated cost of \$4,300 each, the total budget for devices is \$1,397,500.

As the devices arrive, Victory Electric will coordinate with contractors to schedule work and materials. Before work orders can be assigned to construction crews for installation, devices must be programmed according to their specific purpose. Programming updates will be done according to the coordination study done in Phase I. It is believed each device will take one and a half hours to program by an engineering department employee.

Phase II is expected to take nine months.

Phase II Budget: \$1,530,441

Phase III includes the installation of devices and commences until all have been deployed. As previously mentioned, our installation strategy utilizes contractors to install the more complex jobs while using our own crews to install the less complicated ones. This strategy enables Victory Electric to reliably commit resources towards the project while maintaining flexibility if needed to respond to storms and outages.

Phase III will run the course of twenty-four months. At this point, the total project will be in cumulative months of thirty-six months.

Phase III Budget Total: \$655,083

Phase IV of the project timeline involves the reporting, review of benefits and public reporting of the impact on resiliency. During this time, we would investigate the benefits that occurred after installation and do the necessary reporting as required by the Kansas Corporation Commission. We would share what we have learned and observed with other distribution utilities within the state of Kansas. We anticipate this taking approximately six months to share what we have learned, and twelve to thirty-six months to share our observations and trending analysis. Victory Electric would welcome input from the Kansas Corporation Commission to develop an appropriate method for sharing our observations.

Victory Electric is submitting this application as part of the small utility set aside class. We are using one-third entity cost match plus the state 15% cost match of the federal funds subawarded as described in the Kansas Corporation Commission Grid Resilience Formula Grant FAQs. As such, the match is one-third, plus 15% state cost match, of the federal funds subawarded, which is the amount of federal dollars going to Victory Electric as the applicant for the project.

Subgrant from KCC: \$1,480,162
Victory Electric Contribution: \$715,362
Total Project cost: \$2,195,424

Victory Electric is willing to negotiate these amounts.

Cost match commitment letter:

[Cost_match_commitment_Letter_12.29.pdf](#)

Section 5: Project Timeline

Project timeline:

Phase I

Task 1 - Sectionalizing and Protection Coordination Study

Victory Electric will engage with an engineering firm to study the most efficient placement of Trip Saver devices within the project area. These locations are prioritized to isolate temporary faults with minimal impact to connected services with shared distribution components.

Task 2 – Contractor Procurement

Victory Electric will procure and negotiate agreements with contractors to install the devices at specific locations deemed to be more complex. This will allow Victory Electric to reserve our crews for outage restoration projects and scheduled construction projects.

Schedule: Three months

Phase II

Task 3 (Dependencies: Task 1) – Equipment Orders

Victory Electric will coordinate with Border States electric equipment supplier to order devices. Upon order confirmation and estimated delivery dates, Victory Electric will begin integrating work management systems with our contractors to ensure communication of project expectations, progress reports and expenditures.

Task 4 (Dependencies: Task 3) - Receive Devices

Receive the devices into our asset and inventory management system.

Task 5 (Dependencies: Task 1) – Staking

Upon the completion of the sectionalizing study, the engineering department can begin staking and designing the deployment of devices.

Task 6 (Dependencies: Task 1; Task 4) - Device Programming

As devices are received, engineers can begin programming devices to work with existing equipment configurations.

Task 7 (Dependencies: Task 2; Task 5; Task 6) - Coordinate with contractors to schedule work.

Beginning with the completion of Task 2, Victory Electric will work with its contractors to integrate our Work Management System (WMS) to work with their crews. Additionally, we will develop an anticipated schedule of resources to meet the requirements of our project. This will help to eliminate unforeseen resource constraints.

Schedule: Nine months

Phase III

Task 8 (Dependencies: Task 7) - Assign Work Orders to Crews

Victory Electric will electronically assign work orders to contract and our own crews to commence construction and deployment of devices.

Phase IV

Task 9 – Progress Reports

Victory Electric will maintain a monthly report related to overall project progress, including task accomplishments, accumulated labor hours, devices order/received, engineering designs completed, devices programmed, devices deployed, poles replaced, direct and indirect costs, device performance, and SAIDI/SAIFI metrics of project area and entire service territory.

Schedule: Twenty-four months

Bids and estimates:

[TripSaver_Map.pdf](#)

[Kansas_Contractor_Rates_Hourly_Cost_Schedule_Victory_Electric2022.pdf](#)

Section 7: Community Benefit

Community benefit narrative:

Victory Electric's stated mission is to provide safe, reliable service at a competitive rate, provide economic development opportunities and services for our members, and to ensure the financial stability of the cooperative using sensible business practices and the latest technology. With these grant funds, Victory Electric believes this targeted community will have more reliable electric service. Service improvements that will increase the quality of life for thousands of disadvantaged residents of Ford County. Many of these residents and businesses in this area are minorities. In Dodge City, 68% of the population identify as minorities. Approximately 78% of the population are U.S. citizens. Per capita income in Dodge City is about 31% below the per capita income level for Kansas (\$32,885) as of 2019. Approximately 16% of the population lives below the poverty line with children being a sizable portion of this group (Data USA, 2022)¹. The social vulnerability index in Ford County is 0.86, indicating that extreme weather events or other hazards and natural disasters will be particularly impactful to this population. This includes higher-than expected health, financial and social impacts. This estimate is relative to other parts of the U.S. and was estimated at this level based on higher socioeconomic concerns (poverty level, unemployment, income, and education level), household composition and disability (elderly, children single parent households), and type of housing and transportation (multi-unit structures, mobile homes, crowding, no vehicles) (ATSDR, 2018)². By increasing the resilience of the energy infrastructure, Victory Electric and any grant funds awarded will help provide more reliable and stable operations to the entire community, all things necessary for a community to thrive. Besides the immediate benefit to the affected community's quality of electric service, the implementation of these devices reduces the overall cost associated with repairing outages. If Victory Electric can reduce the number of service calls necessary to investigate a single-phase outage and/or replace a blown tap fuse by 5% or more, there is significant saving in labor hours and equipment expense. These reductions directly impact Victory Electric's ability to maintain affordable electricity rates. The vehicles used to maintain a distribution system are of substantial size. The technology required to replace these vehicles with carbon free emission options does not currently exist at economical scales therefore, Victory Electric uses diesel as our primary fuel. Each time a Trip Saver device operates as designed and can restore service once a fault occurs, it reduces the carbon dioxide produced from dispatching a truck to replace a fuse. ¹Data USA. (2022). Dodge City, KS. Available at: <https://datausa.io/profile/geo/dodge-city-ks/>. ²Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR). 2018. CDC/s Social Vulnerability Index (SVI): Interactive Map. Available at: <https://svi.cdc.gov/map.html>.

<p>Provide historical measurements of resilience and reliability for the targeted areas of each proposed project.</p>	<p>Since 2020, substations servicing the project area have experienced 1,069 outages, which includes outages related to transformers, meter failures, weather, animals, other and unknown causes. In total, these outages account for 70,035 hours of customer-hours, of which nearly half were attributed to a December 15, 2021, windstorm in the immediate area. The average CAIDI metric for this project area is 91.7 for the years 2020 through 2023.</p>
<p>Provide expected changes to the historical data as a result of each proposed project.</p>	<p>Victory Electric anticipates properly placed and configured Trip Saver devices shall decrease the durations of outages by 20%. Additionally, with the device's ability to isolate faults to smaller sections of lines, the frequency of outages should decrease by 30%. By industry standards, these would constitute significant improvements for the specified area.</p>
<p>Provide historical measurements of resilience and reliability for the entire system to determine whether the project is in an area that has, on average, more frequent or longer duration outages.</p>	<p>Across Victory Electric's entire service territory since 2020, there have been 5,909 outages including those caused by equipment failures, weather, animals, other, and unknown causes. These outages represent 285,792 customer-hours, or an average CAIDI of 61.1.</p>
<p>Provide age of system or line segments to be replaced or repaired, type of equipment that failed, and the number of annual outages for the project area.</p>	<p>The project area is part of Victory Electric's service territory that was acquired in 2005 from Aquila, Inc. as part of their asset liquidation to Mid-Kansas Electric Company. Victory Electric was one of six electric cooperatives who organized themselves for the purpose of acquiring these assets. There are not reliable records pertaining to the installation dates of the assets in question. When consulting with past Aquila, Inc. employees who continued their employment with Victory Electric, they estimate the assets in question were installed between the years 1960 through 1970. The protection devices used during that era were primarily expulsion-type fuses. For economic reasons, these have continued to be maintained and only replaced with more modern protection devices as needed. Expulsion-type protection is susceptible to numerous outages caused by animals, vegetation, and lightning.</p>
<p>Provide a number of protective devices (fuses or breakers) that have operated more than once in a rolling 12-month period.</p>	<p>There has been a total of twenty-one protective devices operating within the past twelve months more than once. During the same period, twelve devices have operated to lockout condition more than once.</p>

Provide a number of customers impacted by project and the percentage to total customers served in Kansas.

The area impacted by this project includes 3,851 services. This represents 18.9% of our entire 20,296 services, all of which are within the state of Kansas.

Description of efforts to attract, train, and retrain a skilled workforce for this project.

The design, configuration, installation, and maintenance of an electrical distribution system requires many distinct skills. For the project mentioned in this grant application, electric engineers will design the installation in compliance with required specifications. Highly trained electric utility construction workers will construct and install the devices to perform as designed, and electric utility service workers will maintain the equipment to optimal performance. To retain a talented and skilled workforce, Victory Electric offers competitive salaries and a comprehensive benefit package with health insurance, a defined pension plan, matching 401K contributions, dental care, eye care, life insurance and other benefits. Beyond employee benefits, Victory Electric's 2024 budget has set aside over \$215,000 to train our employees. The skills they accumulate are necessary to provide the most efficient service possible while staying safe performing dangerous work. For the South Dodge Resiliency project, we anticipate two crew members, a member of our Safety and Training department and an engineer to receive specific training from a manufacture representative on the proper installation and maintenance of these specific devices. Once trained, our Safety and Training department will oversee the dissemination of training procedures and materials necessary for the remainder of our operations department to become proficient with these devices.

Provide an estimate of job creation due to this project.

Victory Electric estimates 5,362.5 labor hours will be necessary to complete this project. Because of current trends related to growth, and a tight labor market, especially in Southwest Kansas, Victory Electric anticipates utilizing various construction contractors based in Kansas to complete half or more of the project. Victory Electric has used various contractors in the past to help maintain our distribution system and restore power during outages beyond the scope of our capabilities to quickly restore service. Victory Electric has ample resources to support this project, both logistically and technologically. Our facilities in Dodge City, KS encompass almost thirteen acres, including securely fenced areas to house additional vehicles and contractor equipment, plus any materials beyond the scope of what is normally kept in stock. Victory Electric can incorporate multiple contractors into our work management process to track progress and report the work, as necessary. We use mobile tablets to assign, track progress, and complete work orders assigned to crews. The same platform assists with safety inspections and can initiate tailgate safety meetings before work begins each morning.

Identify any plans to partner with training providers to support workforce development. Victory Electric would welcome the opportunity to work with area technical skill development centers to demonstrate the successful deployment and benefits of Trip Saver devices. Although Victory Electric does not believe this project will require any long-term development to successfully complete this project. Victory Electric will continue to support technical training centers around the Southwest Kansas region to develop their utility construction programs as we have employed multiple graduates from area technical training centers.

Provide any other metric(s) that indicates potential community benefit. None

Confirmation that the applicant will comply with all Davis-Bacon Act requirements. Yes

Confirmation that the applicant will comply with all Buy America Requirements. Yes

Confirmation that the applicant will submit an environmental questionnaire (NETL Form 451.1-1-3), if required, for each work area proposed in the application. Yes
