

Notice of Grant Availability
MEA CHP FY17 Grant Program

Program Description: The Maryland Energy Administration's Combined Heat and Power Fiscal Year 2017 grant program (MEA CHP FY17) will provide grants to encourage the implementation of CHP technologies in Maryland. MEA will only consider a project where the owner of the facility ("facility owner") will either 1) own the CHP system and be working directly with a contractor for the installation, or 2) be working with a developer/energy service company (ESCO) who will own the CHP system ("CHP owner").

Program Budget: Up to \$4.025 million is available for this Program in fiscal year 2017, subject to availability. These funds are allocated to three Areas of Interest (AOI) in the following manner:

- **AOI 1-** Up to \$1.525 million initially reserved for cost effective CHP energy efficiency projects in commercial, industrial, and institutional facilities;
- **AOI 2-** Up to \$1.5M initially reserved for energy efficient CHP projects that also increase resiliency in critical infrastructure facilities; and,
- **AOI 3-** Up to \$1M initially reserved for projects that leverage biomass or biogas resources as a fuel source.

Eligible Market Industries:

- Commercial, industrial, and institutional facilities (eligible for AOI 1 and AOI 3);
- Critical infrastructure facilities (including healthcare, wastewater treatment, and essential state and local government facilities) (eligible for AOI 2 and AOI 3).

A definition of critical infrastructure is provided in the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) document.

Application Deadline: January 13, 2017

Type of Grant Program:

- Subject to funding availability and restrictions, grants will be awarded to eligible applicants primarily on a first-come, first-served basis until the Program is oversubscribed. However, to ensure geographic diversity, MEA will initially reserve funding for at least one project in each AOI within the rural areas of Maryland. If no eligible CHP applications are submitted from the rural areas of the State within an AOI, MEA will then fund the next eligible project(s) within that AOI.

- Projects in commercial, industrial, institutional, or critical infrastructure facilities involving biomass/biogas will be evaluated for participation in AOI 3 prior to being considered for AOI 1 or AOI 2.
- In the event that MEA does not initially receive sufficient eligible commercial, industrial, and institutional applications (AOI 1) or biomass/biogas applications (AOI 3), MEA may reallocate remaining funds within the Program to eligible critical infrastructure CHP projects submitted to AOI 2. Any project funded using the \$1.525M initially reserved for AOI 1 must be cost effective.

Program Eligibility Requirements:

At a minimum, each proposed project must:

- Be located in Maryland;
- Meet all program requirements;
- Have an anticipated annual CHP system efficiency of at least 60%, on a Higher Heating Value (HHV) basis;
- For AOI 1, be shown in the feasibility study to be cost effective which means that the project's lifetime net energy benefits are at least equal to the cost of the project; and
- Satisfy all applicable regulatory and environmental requirements.

In addition, all CHP projects must be able to document forecasted on-site energy reductions (by energy type, in terms of both energy units (e.g. avoided therms of natural gas) and avoided energy costs (\$/year)). CHP projects involving biomass or biogas shall also be required to forecast the anticipated amount of biofuel that will be consumed annually. Projects submitted under AOI II must be able to document to MEA that the facility where the CHP system is going to be installed meets the definition of critical infrastructure being used for this Program.

To be considered for grant award, an application must be complete, accurate, and signed by the facility owner (or owner's representative) and either the CHP owner or the contractor, whichever is applicable. In addition, the application must be accompanied by a Certificate of Status from the Maryland State Department of Assessments and Taxation completed by the facility owner and, when applicable, the CHP owner. Electronic application submittals are strongly encouraged.

Capacity Incentive Grant Amounts: The program design will utilize a tiered approach, with smaller systems receiving a higher kW capacity incentive grant amount than larger systems. Grant awards range in size from up to \$425/kW to up to \$575/kW per project, based on the size of the system and based on funding availability (See Table 1 below). The maximum grant award available per project in FY17 is up to \$500,000.

Table 1 – MEA CHP FY17 Capacity Incentive	
System Size	Capacity Payment per kW
Equal to or less than 75kW	Up to \$575
Between 76kW and 150kW	Up to \$550
Between 151kW and 300kW	Up to \$525
Between 301kW and 500kW	Up to \$500
Between 501kW and 750kW	Up to \$475
Between 751kW and 1MW	Up to \$450
1MW and greater	Up to \$425

Within each AOI, MEA reserves the right to lower the offered capacity payment incentives for each system size to qualified applicants by up to \$150/kW, in order to maximize program participation.

MEA will make the grant funds available to the facility owner (or owner's representative) in two installments: Up to 30% as a ground breaking incentive after MEA staff has verified that the official ground breaking has commenced and materials are onsite, with the remaining funds provided as a commissioning incentive.

Restrictions, Requirements, and Limitations:

- Multiple CHP systems installed within the same facility, as well as campuses consisting of multiple affiliated buildings in one geographical location, will be considered one project for consideration of eligibility under this Program.
- Applicants selected for an award under this Program shall be required to submit an IRS W9 form to MEA **prior** to award execution.
- To receive a grant, a successful applicant must be able to enter into a Grant Agreement with MEA by no later than April 1, 2017.
- A project is **not** eligible if an agreement has been signed to order materials or to begin construction of the respective CHP system prior to the execution of a Grant Agreement under the MEA CHP program.
- MEA will **not** disburse grant funds to a project that starts construction prior to the effective date of the applicant's Grant Agreement with MEA.
- MEA reserves the right to obligate all or none of the *MEA CHP FY17 Grant Program* budget, based on the quality and eligibility of applications submitted to MEA.
- Prior to the start of construction, each project selected for funding must be reviewed by the Maryland Historic Trust (MHT) or the qualified historical preservation expert on MEA's staff to ensure that no historical property will be adversely impacted. MEA may require that the grantee provide additional information concerning the proposed project site in order to complete the historic preservation review.
- Each CHP project selected must have material onsite and an official groundbreaking

ceremony by January 1, 2018.

- Each CHP project selected must be fully commissioned by January 1, 2019.
- To receive the final grant funds disbursement, or “commissioning incentive”, MEA must receive the following from the grantee: CHP system commissioning report; copies of all inspection documents, all required permits and licenses to operate the project; and a photograph of the installed and operational CHP system. The CHP system commissioning report shall clearly define the capacity and expected annual generation output of the CHP system, avoided on-site energy benefits (in both avoided units of energy/year and annual financial savings), and estimated off-site energy efficiency benefits (through avoided transmission line losses). In addition, prior to final reimbursement, MEA staff will visit the project job site to verify CHP system completion.
- Each Grantee is responsible for acquiring and obtaining all necessary environmental and building permits or certificates. Prior to disbursement of any grant funds, MEA must receive a schedule and copies of all required permits and certificates.
- Grantees will be required to submit a report to MEA one year after CHP system commissioning outlining actual system performance data.
- To be eligible for award, all proposed CHP systems must be designed to be able to operate in the event of a power outage.

Required Application Documents:

MEA Application: Please note that the name on the MEA Application must match the name and address listed on the applicant’s W9 form.

Each applicant participating in a utility CHP program must submit the following documents with the MEA application

- A copy of the initial utility CHP utility program application
- A copy of the CHP Feasibility Study showing the 60% HHV minimum requirement is met
- All Utility CHP program supplemental documents
- Utility CHP program pre-approval letter (if available)
- Most recent (12) consecutive months of electric bills
- Most recent (12) consecutive months of natural gas bills concurrent with electric bills (if applicable)
- Current Certificate of Status provided by the [Maryland State Department of Assessments and Taxation](#)
- Current IRS W-9 form

Each applicant that does not intend to participate in a utility program must submit the following documents with the application:

- CHP Feasibility Study meeting the 60% HHV minimum requirement
- Copy of 5-year all-inclusive warranty or service contract
- Most recent (12) consecutive months of electric bills

- Most recent (12) consecutive months of natural gas bills concurrent with electric bills (if applicable)
- Current Certificate of Status provided by the [Maryland State Department of Assessments and Taxation](#)
- Current IRS W-9 Form

For more information or assistance, please visit [MEA CHP FY17](#) or contact Rory Spangler at Rory.Spangler@Maryland.gov. Applications should be submitted to CHP.MEA@maryland.gov.