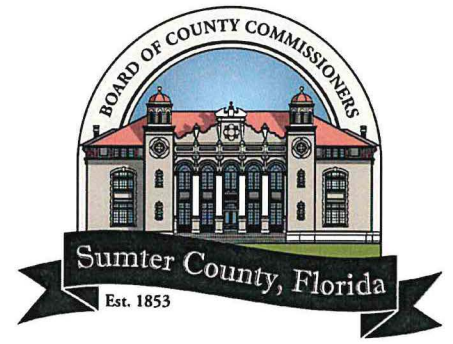


Board of County Commissioners Sumter County, Florida

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Website: <http://sumtercountyfl.gov>



February 21, 2023

Maria Robinson, Director
Grid Deployment Office
U.S. Department of Energy
1000 Independence Ave. SW
Washington, D.C. 20585

Re: SECO Energy's Grid Resilience and Innovation Partnership (GRIP) grant application

Dear Ms. Robinson:

Sumter County Board of County Commissioners is providing this letter in support of SECO Energy's application for the Grid Resilience and Innovation Partnerships (GRIP) program funding for "Improving Reliability through Grid Hardening Project." SECO Energy's proposed project is vital to ensure that Sumter County's rural communities, which historically are underserved and under-represented, have access to affordable, reliable, clean energy.

I recommend your careful consideration of SECO Energy's application and can assure you that this funding will not only address long-standing regional needs but will contribute to the overall grid resiliency in areas in Sumter County that are often disproportionately affected by severe or extreme weather.

Thank you for the opportunity to express my support to the proposed project and for giving SECO Energy's application your consideration.

Sincerely,

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Chairman

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Vice Chairman
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