

Board of Directors

Meeting date: April 15,
2026 Agenda Item #: 10

Power Ahead Colorado Innovation Pilot Program Policy

Agenda item type: Action

Summary

Review and discussion of the proposed Innovation Pilot Program Policy, which establishes a competitive grant program to fund pilot projects that test innovative approaches to reducing barriers to building electrification. The policy defines program structure, eligible applicants and activities, funding levels, and evaluation criteria.

Background

Review and discussion of the proposed Innovation Pilot Program Policy, which establishes a competitive grant program to fund pilot projects that test innovative approaches to reducing barriers to building electrification. The policy defines program structure, eligible applicants and activities, funding levels, and evaluation criteria.

Background

The Innovation Pilot Program is designed to fund targeted, community-driven pilot projects that test new approaches to overcoming structural, financial, and operational barriers to building electrification across the DRCOG region. The program prioritizes projects that can generate actionable insights and demonstrate a credible pathway to scale.

The proposed policy outlines key program elements, including eligibility requirements, allowable project types, award structure, and the application and evaluation process. Awards are expected to average approximately \$200,000, with a maximum request of \$350,000 per project.

The program is structured around four competitive tracks that target distinct barriers to electrification:

- Making Electrification Easier to Deliver
- Demand Flexibility and Technical Performance
- Coordinated Deployment and Planning Strategies
- Expanding Access, Health, and Trusted Delivery

Evaluation criteria place the greatest emphasis on feasibility and budget, alongside innovation, scalability, and equitable market transformation.

Projects funded through this program are expected to launch in Fall 2026 and run for approximately 12 to 16 months.



Action by others

[April 3, 2026](#)- Power Ahead Colorado Technical Committee Meeting

[April 10, 2026](#)- Power Ahead Colorado Oversight Committee Meeting

Previous discussion/action

None.

Recommendation

Move to approve the Innovation Pilot Program Policy.

Attachment(s)

Innovation Pilot Program Policy

For more information

If you need additional information, please contact Douglas W. Rex, Executive Director, at 303-480-6701; or Mac Prather, Mac Prather, Program Manager, Incentives, Innovation, and Comfort for All, at mprather@drcog.org.

