



EDA Build Back Better Regional Challenge Coalition: Central Florida Region's Clear Sky Ecosystem

Growing an Industry Cluster for Innovative “**Resilient Microgrid Technologies**” to enable *Clean Energy Generation* with *Zero Emission Transportation* in Central Florida.

Clear Sky Ecosystem: Response to EDA Grant

Economic Development Administration (EDA or the Agency), U.S. Department of Commerce (DOC).

University of South Florida is heading an initiative TBRPC staff is supporting for the FY 2021 American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Build Back Better Regional Challenge (BBRC).

Objectives:

- 1) Help regions develop transformational economic development strategies, and
- 2) Fund the implementation of those strategies that will create and grow regional growth clusters.

Phase I Proposal Due: October 19, 2021
Potential Funding: \$500,000

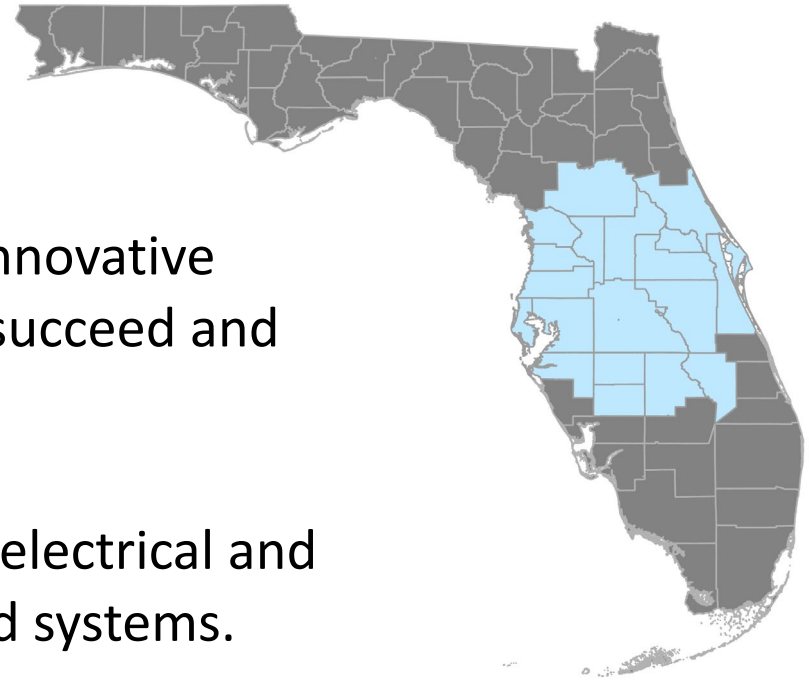
Phase II Proposal Due: March 15, 2022
Potential Funding: \$25M - \$75M



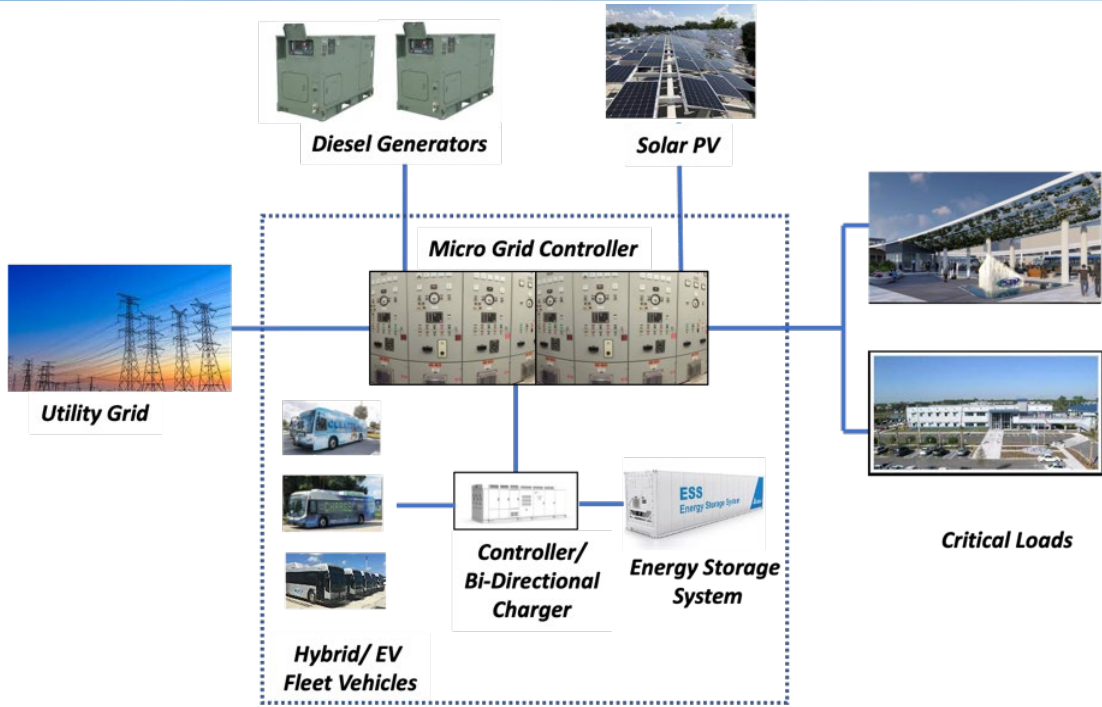
Clear Sky Ecosystem: Region/Focus

Goal: Foster an Ecosystem that allows organizations in the Innovative *Resilient Microgrid Technology Cluster* in Central Florida to succeed and compete globally and create high-tech, high paying jobs.

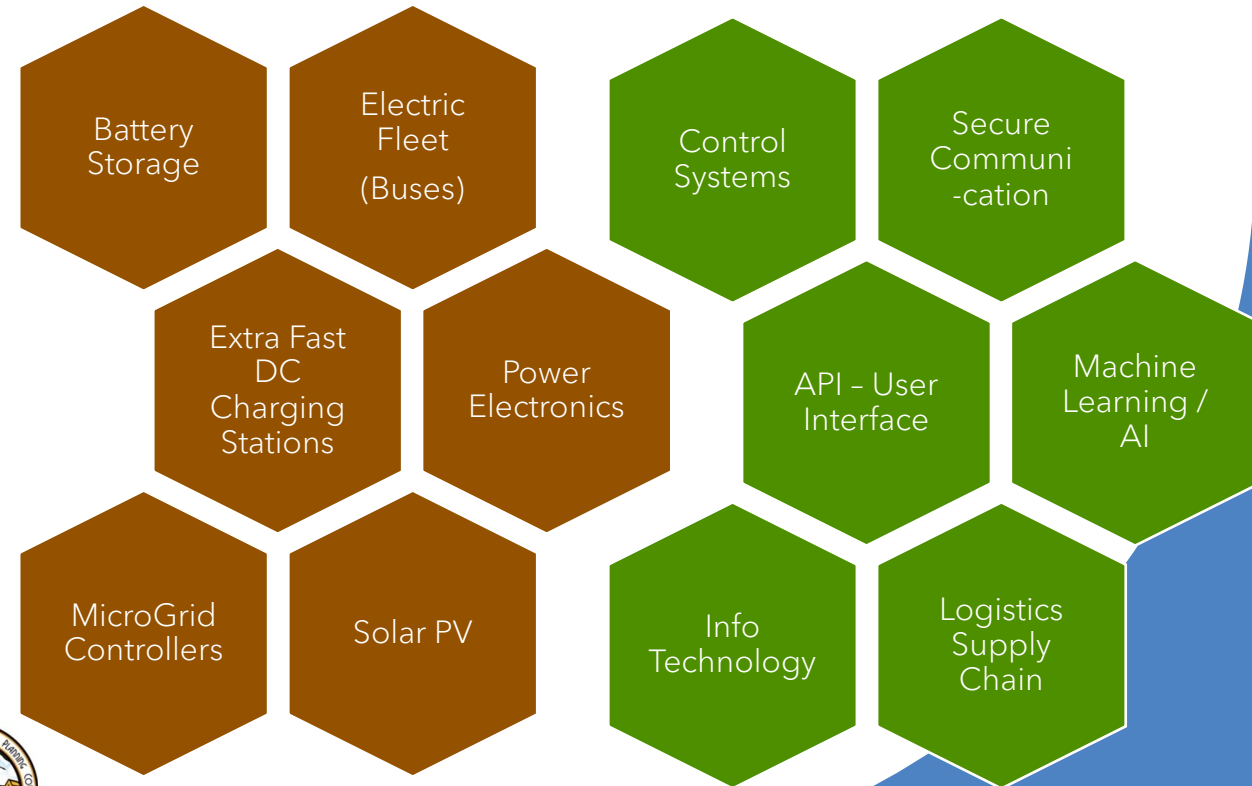
Focus Areas: Innovative *Resilient Microgrid Technologies* - electrical and electronic controllers, components, software, equipment and systems.



Clear Sky 'Resilient Microgrid Technology' Cluster



Examples: renewable energy generation (solar PV); energy storage (batteries); power electronics (semiconductors); bi-directional charging stations (for fleet vehicles); control and communication technology (intelligent management, autonomous operation, cybersecurity, artificial intelligence etc).



Infrastructure: Resilient microgrids for clean power generation that includes bi-directional charging stations and electric fleet vehicles for zero emission public transportation.

Clear Sky Ecosystem: Goals

- New Resilient Infrastructure in Central Florida.
- New commercialized technologies developed by universities.
- Hundreds of high paying, skilled manufacturing and service jobs in the region, Thousands if indirect jobs are included.
- Several new start-ups created in the region that service and make products for this industry.
- Reduced greenhouse gas emissions in the region.
- Improvement in the economic standards of underdeveloped communities.



Clear Sky Ecosystem: Initiatives (3 to 8 projects)

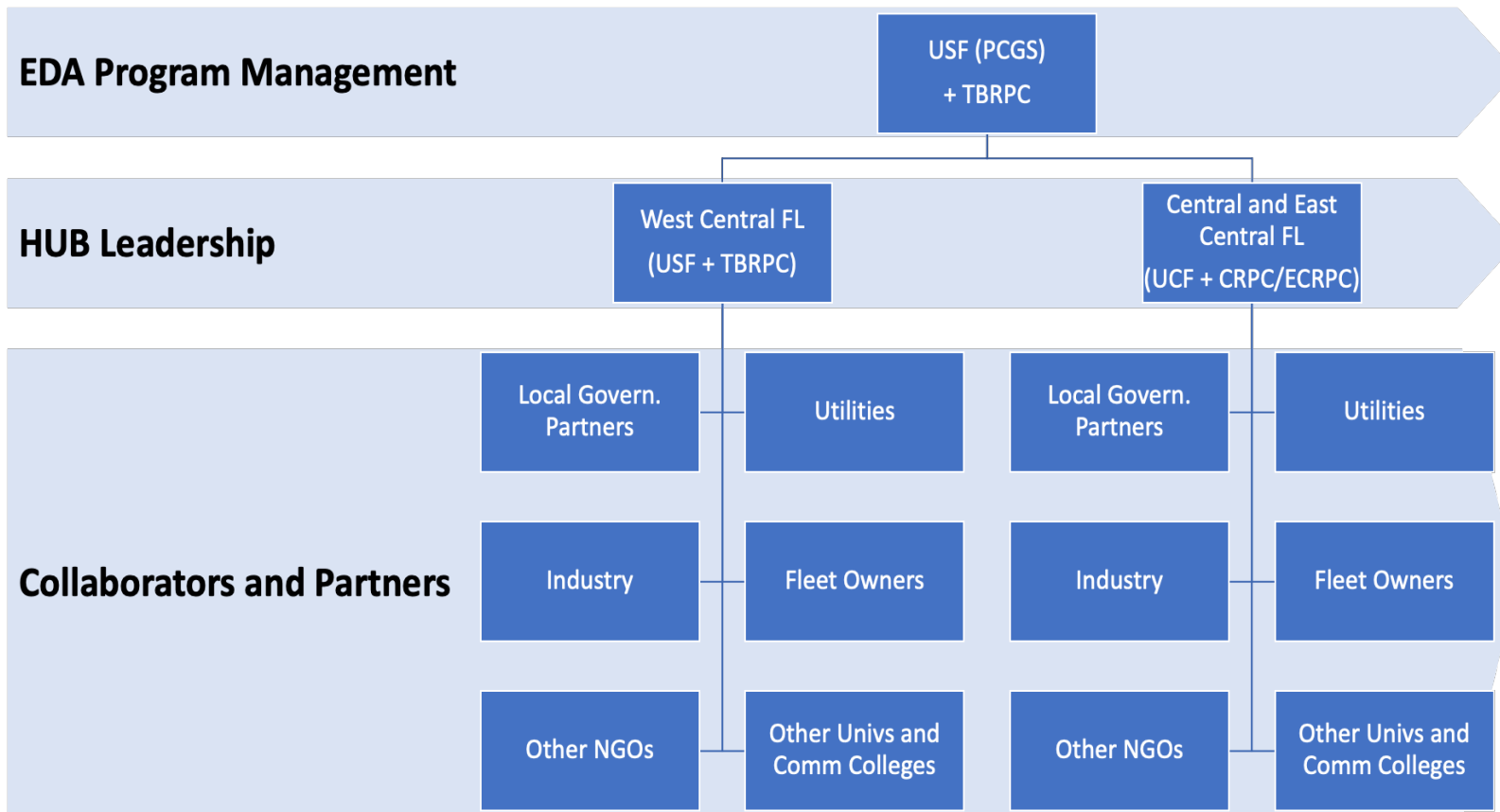
- Infrastructure.
- Innovation, Technology Development and Testing.
- Workforce Development.
- Business Incubation/Acceleration.
- Communication.
- Manufacturing.
- Equity, Resilience, Sustainability, Economic Development.



Clear Sky Ecosystem: Coalition Leads/Partners



Clear Sky Organizational/Management Structure



Oversight and Governance

- Board of Directors
- Industry Advisory Board
- Steering Committees



Local Partner: Tampa Bay Wave

- Regional business incubator in Tampa Bay
- Connects small businesses to sources of funding, and maintains solid connections with largest employers
- Will assist the coalition with private sector involvement in the execution of this microgrid plan



Clear Sky Ecosystem: Other Members/Industry Partners

Other Coalition Members:

- **NGOs:** Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council, Central Regional Planning Council, East Central Regional Planning Council, Florida High Tech Corridor, Other EDAs,
- **Government:** Hillsborough County, Pinellas County, Manatee County, Orange County, Osceola County, City of Tampa, City of St. Petersburg, City of Largo, City of Orlando, Florida Department of Transportation, HART, PSAT, Others

Potential Industry Partners:

- **Utilities:** Duke Energy, Tampa Electric Company, Florida Power and Light, Nextera, Orlando Utilities Commission
- **Industry:** Jacobs, Ayres, GHD, AECOM, Siemens Energy, Reliaquest, Tech Data, Raytheon, Honeywell International, Lockheed Martin, Others

Additional Important Points

- Florida has not received any grants of this size
 - The larger geographic area of the coalition reflects the magnitude of the opportunity
 - Increased economic activity in a connected corridor gives benefits to the rest of the area's economy
- Direct, indirect, and induced job creation across the commuter-shed
 - Direct: installation jobs involving electricians, electrical engineers, general construction workers, etc.
 - Indirect: maintenance, manufacturing, and logistics
 - Induced: household spending-driven economic boon from increased activity

Next Steps

- Support Letters
- Commitment Letters
- Finalize and Submit Planning Proposal



Request for Letters of Support

- If your area/organization/constituents would benefit from participation in this application, then please have your staff request a draft letter of support
- **Letters of Support Deadline – Friday, October 15th**
- Application Deadline – Tuesday, October 19th
- Email: harry@tbrpc.org

