

GridSync: Streamlining Municipal Grid Planning: An Integrated, Iterative Platform Approach

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Project Summary

Utility Partners Problem: The status quo of grid planning in municipalities and co-ops is a “Linear approach” – downstream from policy makers to the developer, with little feedback mechanisms. It leads to procedural inefficiencies, sub-optimal resource allocation, duplication of efforts, missed opportunities, difficulty accessing critical datasets, and inability to fully capitalize on funding programs.

Project approach – Plexflo proposes an integrated, data-driven planning platform that will digitize processes, enabling all stakeholders to collaborate efficiently on grid planning, upgrades, and DER integrations.

Key features of the platform include: [1] Cloud-based power flow modeling for faster identification of grid constraints and optimization of grid performance. [2] Integration of diverse datasets from public environmental and ecological databases, weather data, and utility-specific information for comprehensive planning.

Impact and Benefits

1. Iteration and feedback from developers and engineers can be communicated transparently to decision-makers, backed by data.
2. Interactive tool to simulate multiple upgrade and planning scenarios based on funding opportunities & resource availability
3. Enhances collaboration among stakeholders, reduces duplication of efforts

