

September 2025

Featured Article



Microgrids and Electric System Resiliency

When natural disasters occur, resilient electric systems can allow customers to maintain electricity despite potential threats to the grid's ability to provide power. Microgrid systems could play a role in mitigating these resilience concerns.

Microgrid systems are localized electrical grids that can operate independently or in conjunction with the main power grid. They provide a localized solution in that they can operate autonomously regardless of being connected to the grid, and they can be useful for critical facilities like hospitals, data centers, and military

bases that need electricity during grid outages.

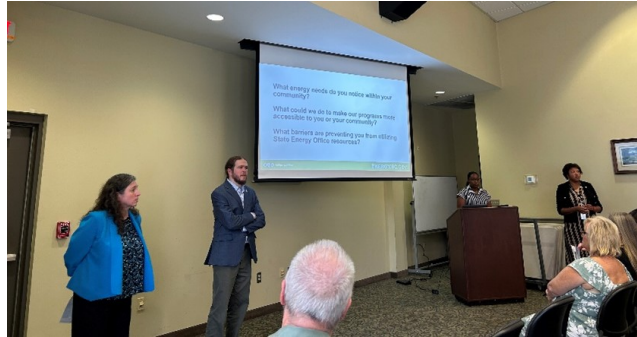
There are three main types of microgrids: grid-connected, remote, and networked. Grid-connected microgrids have a physical connection to the utility grid via a switching mechanism and can disconnect into island mode and reconnect back to the main grid as needed. Remote microgrids, or off-grid microgrids, are separate from the utility grid and can operate when affordable and available transmission or distribution infrastructure is not nearby. Networked microgrids are composed of several separate distributed energy resources (DERs) that are connected to the same utility grid circuit segment and serve a wide geographic area.

Microgrids may strengthen resilience by allowing users to consume electricity even when the main grid is down. Interest in microgrids is increasing due to their ability to provide increased reliability, decreased energy costs from optimizing energy use, and a backup power supply at the point of consumption.

Energy Office in Action

The RoadEO Continues!

The SEO continues its “RoadEO” with presentations to the Councils of Governments (COGs) and government entities in South Carolina. The objective of these feedback sessions is to share information about SEO programs and solicit feedback on how to best support local governments. These presentations aim to



strengthen collaboration with local and regional leaders by highlighting the Palmetto Clean Fuels Coalition, grants and loans to support public entities, education, outreach, and training opportunities; available data and resources; and technical assistance to reduce energy use. If you represent a public entity in South Carolina and would like to provide feedback on the SEO program offerings, [click here to fill out the survey](#).

Funding Opportunities

Application Period for Round Three EECBG Opens

The SEO is opening a third round for applications for funding through the SC Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) Competitive Subgrant Program (SC EECBG Program). Applications are now being accepted on a rolling basis, pending available funding, through December 1, 2025.

Round Three SC EECBG: Eligible Applicants

- *Counties or municipalities that are ineligible for US DOE EECBG Funding,*
- *Local public authorities,*
- *School districts,*
- *Special districts,*
- *Councils of Governments (COGs),*
- *Any other regional or intrastate governmental entity or instrumentality of a local government, and,*
- *(NEW) State agencies.*

The SEO has published an updated Guidance, and the Application for Round 3 SC EECBG on the [Energy Office website](#). The SEO will not be able to directly respond to applicant questions during the application period, but will post and regularly update, as needed, a Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) document. Questions received after November 10, 2025, may not receive a response before the close of the application period. Please submit project applications with unanswered questions.

SCEO EECBG Webinar on Tuesday, September, 23, 2025, at 2:00 pm. [Register here.](#)

Upcoming Events

Registration is Open for the ASCEM Fall Conference

October 7, 2025 | West Columbia, SC

The Association of South Carolina Energy Managers (ASCEM) opened registration for the 2025 Fall Conference at Philips Market Center in West Columbia, SC. ASCEM provides information to members to foster a common energy management program for South Carolina, which includes:

- consolidated experience, knowledge, and interest in the field of energy management;
- disseminated information;
- shared strategies for financing; and
- encouragement and assistance for members to implement energy efficiency projects.

Conference registration includes ASCEM membership. Registration information and a draft agenda are available [via Eventbrite](#). Interested in presenting? Reach out to ASCEM Chairman, Chris Johnson, at johnsonc@winthrop.edu.

2025 Energy Efficiency as a Resource Conference

October 7-9, 2025 | Denver, CO

Join ACEEE and IEPEC in Denver as they focus on policies and programs to reduce energy waste. The event will explore how efficiency efforts can expand and evolve to help utilities and policymakers overcome the challenge of rapid electric growth while maintaining power reliability and customer affordability. [Visit their website to learn more.](#)

SustainSC's 4th Annual Sustainability Symposium

October 22-23, 2025 | Columbia, SC

SustainSC brings together stakeholders at the intersection of commerce and conservation. [Visit their website to learn more.](#)

Charleston County Resilience & Sustainability Symposium

November 19, 2025 | 9:00am - 5:00pm ET | Trident Technical College

Charleston County's Resilience and Sustainability Division is hosting a one-day event to convene local changemakers to share current projects, initiatives, and planning efforts, while fostering opportunities for collaboration across jurisdictions. The Resilience and Sustainability Symposium aims to align the region for a more resilient and sustainable future. This symposium will convene local changemakers to share current projects, initiatives, and planning efforts, while fostering opportunities for countywide collaboration. [Click here to register](#) by October 1, 2025.

In Case You Missed It

[Solar farm will power Meta data center in South Carolina](#)

About the South Carolina Energy Office

The State Energy Office (SEO) is housed within the South Carolina Office of Regulatory Staff and serves as the principal energy-planning entity for the state. The mission of the SEO is to advance South Carolina's energy strategy and policy through education and outreach. In addition to promoting the efficient use of all energy sources, the SEO encourages energy efficiency, renewable energy, and clean transportation through a broad range of initiatives. Those initiatives include developing the State Energy Plan, providing technical assistance, offering financial assistance, conducting education and outreach, and maintaining an energy data resource.



ORS.SC.GOV

ENERGY.SC.GOV

EnergySaver.SC.GOV

SOLAR.SC.GOV



South Carolina Energy Office | 1901 Main Street, Suite 1500 | Columbia, SC 29201 US

[Unsubscribe](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)



Try email marketing for free today!