

# e-Lab Accelerator:

## A BOOTCAMP FOR ELECTRICITY INNOVATION

APRIL 18—21, 2017 AT SUNDANCE MOUNTAIN RESORT IN UTAH

### TEAM APPLICATION

On April 18<sup>th</sup>, 2017, Rocky Mountain Institute (RMI) will convene leading project teams from across the U.S. for e-Lab Accelerator: A BootCamp for Electricity Innovation. This invitation-only, four-day working meeting will accelerate the work of high-impact project teams innovating at the distribution edge of the electricity system to advance their work collaboratively.

The project a team is working on must be actively under development, although this work may range from an idea that is just being developed to a project that is well underway. Eligible projects include:

1. **New Business Models:** Projects exploring new business models, market structures, and regulatory efforts focused on optimizing the value of distributed energy resources (DERs) for all stakeholders
2. **DER Value Creation:** Projects tackling new rate designs, compensation mechanisms (e.g. PACE financing, net-metering reform, etc.), deployment strategies, and customer engagement programs focused on creating value streams for DERs (e.g. distributed solar, energy efficiency, electric vehicles, etc.)
3. **Microgrids & More:** Projects demonstrating or piloting innovative local, community-based DER solutions such as microgrids, downtown clean energy zones, net-zero districts, climate action planning, community solar projects, and others

RMI is seeking applications from leading, innovative projects, from which RMI will select teams to achieve a balance of project types and participants who are poised to drive positive change in the electricity system. To be considered for an invitation to attend e-Lab Accelerator, please answer the following brief questions. RMI will review applications and follow up with teams to discuss their applications in greater depth.

**Completed applications are due to RMI by January 13, 2017. Applications will be considered on a rolling basis; early submission is highly encouraged. All project selections will be made by the end of February 2017.**

**Project Title (or Working Title):**

**Project Type:** (e.g. New Business Models)

Project Description (150 words or less):

**Proposed multi-stakeholder team (8 people or less):** *Please list the names of organizations as well as individuals involved in the project. Include titles where appropriate. This list can constitute a preliminary assessment of the “project stakeholders” and will not necessarily dictate the team that attends Accelerator. RMI staff will work with teams to design the most impactful teams for project acceleration. Note that e-Lab prioritizes teams that are multi-stakeholder in nature rather than a project team comprised of participants from a single organization. Please note if this person has already committed to support or participate (e.g. Joe Smith – Committed, Ann Brown – Invited).*

*What additional stakeholders or expertise are critical to project success? (For example, is utility support or approval needed for project completion? Does the project need additional local leadership or financial expertise?)*

*Project Champion(s): The project champion(s) is the point of contact that can share information with project stakeholders, and coordinate preparation activities between stakeholders. Please provide relevant contact information.*

Describe what progress your team has made on your project to date. What activity or milestones are planned over the next year? (150 words or less):

What does your project need to *accelerate*? (150 words or less) *Provide examples of barriers facing your project that your team might work to address at the Accelerator meeting.*

What additional project resources would you like RMI to consider with this application? *For example, please provide links or attachments to related studies, press releases, or web pages that provide further project detail.*

Please note how you heard about Accelerator. *Examples include Twitter, LinkedIn, a specific person, etc.*

## WHAT TO EXPECT

Teams attending e-Lab Accelerator should expect a working session, not a conference. e-Lab Faculty with national expertise relevant to the types of projects we seek, RMI staff, and facilitation partners at Reos Partners will be on site to support the Accelerator project teams. We will use leading process approaches to support project teams in learning, collaborating to advance their objectives, and identifying key needs and potential solutions. The focus of all activities will be to support and propel initiatives toward meaningful action. To this end, teams will find:

- A structured working session designed to drive real progress on their project
- A safe space to test ideas
- Tools and training to conceptualize problems in collaborative and innovative ways
- Coaching and insights from e-Lab faculty
- A rich learning experience featuring experts on the latest thinking around distributed energy resources in the U.S. electricity sector
- Opportunities to build new alliances and a broader support network with other teams working on similar projects

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For further information, or to submit your completed application forms, please contact Courtney Fairbrother at [cfairbrother@rmi.org](mailto:cfairbrother@rmi.org).