
FISCAL UPDATE Article

Fiscal Services Division

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Ground Floor, State Capitol Building

Des Moines, Iowa 50319

515.281.3566

IOWA ENERGY CENTER BOARD MEETING — OCTOBER 2025

Board Meeting. The [Iowa Energy Center Board](#) met on October 7, 2025, at 1963 Bell Avenue in Des Moines.

Iowa Energy Center Grant Program. The [Iowa Energy Center Grant Program](#) provides grants for projects that benefit Iowa customers of electric or natural gas utility services. The Board approved six grant modification requests to extend project end dates and modify planned project budget allocations.

The Board also approved the following grant awards:

- A \$256,000 grant to Iowa State University (ISU) to enhance Iowa's energy resilience through anaerobic-digestion-based microgrids.
- A \$300,000 grant to ISU for phase II of an artificial intelligence (AI)-assisted robotic mapping of underground infrastructure project.
- A \$459,000 grant to ISU for the development of new low-cost high-performance solid-state sodium batteries using exclusively Iowa resources.
- A \$300,000 grant to ISU for fatigue failure mitigation in power grid aluminum conductor steel reinforced (ACSR) conductors using advanced peening technologies.
- A \$257,000 grant to Terenc for a distributed energy resource management system for rural electric cooperatives and municipal utilities.
- A \$297,000 grant to ISU to implement a geographic information system (GIS) tool for enhancing gridline resilience to natural hazards.
- A \$100,000 grant to ISU for K-12 and college math tutoring to strengthen the future of Iowa's energy workforce.
- A \$300,000 grant to ISU for data-driven modeling, prediction, and mitigation of electrification impacts resulting from Iowa's cold weather.

Energy Infrastructure Revolving Loan Program (EIRLP). The [EIRLP](#) provides low-interest loans for energy infrastructure projects that facilitate electricity or gas generation, transmission, storage, or distribution. The Board took the following actions:

- Approved a 15-year, \$238,000 loan for the city of Auburn at a 2.0% interest rate. The project will improve energy infrastructure and is expected to cost \$317,000.
- Declined a 15-year, \$2.5 million loan for the city of Lake View due to underwriting and financial concerns. The project has an expected cost of \$4.2 million.

Reports. The Board heard the following reports:

- Kristin Hanks-Bents provided an update on the activities of the Iowa Economic Development Authority (IEDA) Energy Office.
- Terry Roberson, Accounting Director, provided an update regarding the Board's operations, grants, and loans.

Next Meeting. The next Board meeting will take place on December 4, 2025.

LSA Staff Contact: Evan Johnson (515.281.6301) evan.johnson@legis.iowa.gov

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