

1. Resilience Planning

Improving energy resilience is an increasingly important issue for the state of Utah. Cybersecurity threats, energy reliability and the increasing prevalence of natural disasters such as wildfires and flooding are drivers for the Utah Governor's Office of Energy Development (OED) resilience planning efforts. As advocated in Utah's Energy Efficiency and Conservation Plan released in 2014, OED created a CHP policy working group to advance the adoption of CHP as a viable and important resource for industrial energy efficiency and energy resilience. The group has focused on convening key industry stakeholders and the [DOE Technical Assistance Partnerships \(TAPs\)](#) to support these goals and provide technical support. By encouraging collaboration between members on areas of shared value and interest, the group has identified possible solutions for overcoming barriers to the expansion of cost-effective CHP projects.

OED is also very engaged in emergency planning, where it has a longstanding role participating in State Emergency Response Team (SERT) meetings, and is currently looking at identifying specific jurisdictions that would benefit from improved resiliency. OED will play an active role in the update of Utah's Emergency Management Plan in 2018, collaborating with utilities and other state agencies. The state is also interested in studying resiliency requirements for rural communities through research grants and exploring the opportunity for microgrids.

2. Program or Project Implementation

Emergency management and resiliency issues are high priorities for Utah, and the state is directing its federal [State Energy Program \(SEP\)](#) funds to target emergency management sectors and enhance resiliency. A key focus for emergency planning is identifying critical infrastructure facilities throughout the state, and CHP can be an important technology in supporting resilience planning efforts. The state has also conducted educational outreach to inform stakeholders of the benefits of CHP technologies, primarily through workshops convened through the [CHP Policy Working Group](#). Recently, OED is shifting gears to focus more on microgrids, specifically looking at how microgrids operate in different environments and exploring the ability for CHP-supported microgrids to keep critical infrastructure operational during disasters.

3. Lessons Learned

The formation of the CHP Policy Working Group was beneficial and allowed the OED to access and understand the maps, data and educational materials that can enable further development of CHP solutions. It also provided an avenue for educating stakeholders about the benefits of CHP solutions and explore how CHP can be most effectively deployed in Utah. Maintaining the cost effectiveness of CHP systems throughout their lifetime can be challenging in the state, because Utah has some of the lowest energy costs in the U.S. To overcome cost barriers, OED is exploring new financing mechanisms that can be used to deploy energy technologies that can improve resilience. For example, recent improvements to the state's Commercial Property Assessed Clean Energy (CPACE) financing legislation, which allows the use of private financing to make energy efficiency and renewable energy upgrades in buildings, could enable CHP in the future. In addition, prioritizing public-private partnerships or other innovative tools helps Utah improve energy efficiency and air quality without the use of government mandates.

4. Additional Information

- ▶ [Utah Energy Action Plan](#)
- ▶ [Utah Energy Efficiency and Conservation Plan 2014](#)
- ▶ [U.S Department of Energy – The State of CHP in Utah](#)
- ▶ [Governor's Office of Energy Development – Combined Heat and Power](#)
- ▶ [Utah State of CHP Page](#)