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Fort Collins Named A Top Smart Grid City

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Tags: Energy Renewable Smart Grid United States Department Of Energy

According to U.S. News and World Report Fort Collins, Colorado is one of the Top 10 Cities Adopting Smart Grid Technology, where the "smart grid of tomorrow is a reality today."

Fort Collins' municipally owned utility, Colorado State University's InteGrid Lab, and Spirae, a smart grid consulting and solutions company continue to partner on smart grid advancements and workforce development.

Within the next few years, Fort Collins Utilities' residential and small commercial customers will be able to monitor their energy use and adjust consumption accordingly. Automated Metering Infrastructure (AMI) will also eliminate the need for on-site meter reading...

Additionally, customer benefits will include more billing flexibility and the utility will be able to provide even better customer service. Moreover, the grid will accommodate emerging technologies such as mass integration of Electric Vehicles and the growing use of renewable home energy systems such as Photovoltaic solar systems.

After two years of research, construction, and testing, the Renewable and Distributed Systems Integration (RDSI) project, called the FortZED jumpstart, is in its demonstration year.

Energy resources supporting the RDSI project include plug-in hybrid electric vehicles (PHEVs), demand response applications, solar panels and traditional generators to test how existing electric system accepts and distributes energy from multiple locations.

This project is one of only nine smart grid demonstrations in the country to receive funding from the US Department of Energy.

For more information on the Top 10 cities, visit www.usnews.com/news/energy/slideshows/10-cities-adopting-smart-grid-technology.



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