



# Midwest Energy Community Fund Impact Grant Pilot Program Information and Guidelines

(Revised Apr 2015)

In 2015 Midwest Energy will modify the Midwest Community Fund program by establishing five \$5,000 grants, with one to be awarded annually in each existing Community Fund area. These five grants will be awarded to communities or organizations working on projects larger than the typical Community Fund applicant. A requirement is that the applicant must match the award with funds from the community (invested in a pass through fund with a local community foundation) or documented pledged funds.

## Guidelines

- The project must enhance the community as a whole with long-lived improvements
- Potential projects must be submitted by an organization or committee established for the purpose (i.e., not by an individual)
- The application must demonstrate community support

## Examples

- Community or economic studies
- Creation of a community endowed fund for charitable purposes through a local or area community foundation
- Strategic planning for community or economic development activities
- Regional planning efforts between communities where collaboration, working partnerships or consolidation are the goals
- Creation of bike and walk trails, healthy community activities, youth/senior programs or facilities, beautification projects or similar community projects

The local match for Impact Grants must be on a 2 to 1 basis (\$10,000 must be raised or pledged to receive a \$5,000 grant). Applications to create an endowed fund for a community must have a 4 to 1 match or (\$20,000 raised or pledged to receive a \$5,000 grant).

The regular Community Fund application can be used for the basic information, but additional information should be supplied describing the project, community support and the matching funds (please e-mail this information to [bmuirhead@mwenergy.com](mailto:bmuirhead@mwenergy.com)). The review of these applications will be completed by a sub-committee of members of the five current Community Fund committees with at least two members of Midwest management. The funds will be taken from the total dollars available for the Midwest Community Fund; the remaining dollars in the Midwest Community fund will be spread to the five areas prorated on meter count as we do every year.

