



ACCELERATOR

A BOOTCAMP FOR ELECTRICITY INNOVATION

SUNDANCE MOUNTAIN RESORT, UTAH | APRIL 24-27, 2016

WHAT IS eLab ACCELERATOR?

eLab Accelerator is an invitation-only, four-day working meeting to accelerate high-impact and innovative projects at the electricity system's distribution edge. Accelerator will take these projects to the next level by immersing teams in *eLab's collaborative approaches* and subject-matter expertise that has a proven track record of delivering transformative change across North America.

The Electricity Innovation Lab, or eLab, is a member-based social change lab convened by Rocky Mountain Institute (RMI) in partnership with Reos Partners focused on transforming the electricity system from the inside out. Members have been responsible for driving groundbreaking thought leadership and on-the-ground change.



WHY ATTEND eLAB ACCELERATOR?

We'll help you unlock opportunities to drive projects forward more effectively, and collaboratively. At eLab Accelerator, trained facilitators and technical experts from RMI and Reos Partners, plus a roster of nationally renowned eLab faculty members, will provide customized content, training, and tailored feedback to each team's unique project. Specifically, Accelerator will give teams:

- **A structured working session** to make progress on their project or initiative
- **A rich learning experience** featuring experts on the latest thinking around new utility business models and distributed resources in the U.S. electricity sector
- **Tools and training** to conceptualize problems in collaborative and innovative ways
- **New alliances** to form a broader support network with other teams working on similar projects
- **A unique environment** conducive to creativity and breakthrough ideas

"RMI's eLab Accelerator was a transformational experience for our project team. We hoped to clarify our vision, gain language and tools to help us communicate that vision, and establish a one- to two-year work plan to turn that vision into a reality. By the end of the week we had accomplished those goals, but we gained much more... Accelerator is certainly a highlight of the past year. I expect it will be one of the best experiences of my career."

- Chris Ball, Energy Efficiency Director, City of Bloomfield (IA)

IS eLAB ACCELERATOR FOR YOU?

Accelerator teams comprise 4–6 people representing multiple project stakeholders. Successful teams bring together the right combination of vision, experience, knowledge, and commitment to a project that can accelerate change in the electricity system. Projects must be actively under development at varying levels of maturity. Accelerator 2016 will bring together projects focused on specific themes, which are available online. 2015 themes included:

- **New Business Models:** New utility business models, electricity pricing structures, and regulatory reform efforts focused on distributed energy resource (DER) issues
- **Energy Innovation Districts:** Demonstration projects, microgrids, downtown clean energy zones, and other localized projects to integrate and test innovative DER solutions
- **New Customer Solutions:** Customer engagement programs, innovative financing, strategies for low-income populations, or other initiatives to support clean DER adoption by customers

"eLab Accelerator is the most exciting thing I've ever had the opportunity to participate in as an entrepreneur."

- Katie Bray, Program Director, Clean Energy for Us (NC)



WHAT CAN YOU EXPECT AT eLAB ACCELERATOR?

Accelerator teams will benefit from:

- **A diverse, expert faculty** featuring notable experts in regulatory transformation, portfolio design for renewable resources, transition strategies for energy system change, and venture capital in electricity, among other subjects.
- **A transformative approach** that fosters deep engagement, collaboration, and innovation within and across institutional boundaries to tackle complex problems. These approaches are field-tested and have helped drive impact in areas where challenges are so complex that no single actor is capable of developing solutions alone.
- **A highly interactive agenda** that maximizes opportunities for meaningful project work and individual learning through facilitated project team engagement.



APPLY TODAY



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RMI is seeking applicants from leading projects committed to transforming the North American electricity system. The application process for Accelerator 2016 opens October 2015 and closes January 4, 2016. Submitted applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis. Successful applications will be sent a formal invitation on a rolling basis, with all invitations sent out by February 2016.

Teams accepting the invitation to attend eLab Accelerator make a commitment to actively engage before, during, and after the event in order to drive a project from idea to execution, in partnership with eLab and RMI. This engagement includes phone calls and preparation before the meeting as well as meaningful project work during the event.

COST

Thanks to the generous support of eLab sponsors, Accelerator is offered at a minimal cost to participants. This fee covers three nights lodging and meals at Sundance Mountain Resort in Utah, ground transportation to and from Salt Lake City International Airport, and a portion of RMI's cost of hosting the event. eLab sponsors generously cover the remainder of costs associated with organizing Accelerator. A limited number of scholarships will be available to offset the costs of participation for individuals who might not otherwise be able to attend. Teams are also encouraged to seek financial support from project sponsors or other sources.

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT
www.rmi.org/elab_accelerator