

ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND CONSERVATION BLOCK GRANT (EECBG)

EECBG provides for block and competitive grants to local governments, states and tribes for energy efficiency and renewable energy planning and project implementation. The \$3.2 billion dollar stimulus package funding for the grant program will be dispersed through multiple channels, giving local governments of all sizes multiple opportunities to apply for grant funding. Specifically, EECBG funding can be separated into the following categories with the following timeline and eligibility requirements for local governments. There is an additional \$56 Million in block grants directly from DOE to Indian tribes. Sources: [ICLEI](#) website, the [DUNS](#) website, the [USDOE](#) website and the [CEC](#) website.

I. **Block grants from the US Department of Energy (DOE) for cities over 35,000 in population and counties over 200,000 in population (County populations do not include the populations of cities within them that are eligible for direct formula grants from DOE, i.e. that have 35,000+ population).**

- Funding: \$1.9 Billion
- Timeline: Funding requirements are expected to be available from the US DOE in late March or April 2009. Local governments will then have 60 days to submit an application for funding.
- Details: Available through Fedconnect.net (details provided later in this email). The DOE is working on streamlining the application process. Cap of 10% of funding or \$75,000 for administrative costs, 20% or \$250,000 for the establishment of revolving loan funds, and 20% or \$250,000 for the provision of subgrants to nongovernmental organizations for energy efficiency implementation.
- Project Categories: Energy Efficiency and Conservation Planning
Energy Audits and Building Retrofits
Transportation Energy Efficiency
Building Energy Codes
Distributed Generation and District Power
Recycling and Material Energy Recovery
Landfill Methane Capture and Use
LED/Efficient Traffic Signals
Renewable Energy on Public Facilities
Discretionary
For a full list of projects, see "Eligible Projects" at the bottom of this email

II. Competitive grants from the California Energy Commission (CEC), the majority of which will be restricted to those cities and counties ineligible for DOE block grants (meaning cities under 35,000 in population and counties under 200,000).

- **Funding:** \$56 Million, 60% of which (\$33.6 Million) will go to competitive sub-grants to those cities and counties ineligible for DOE block grants. The rest will be appropriated per State priorities (amounts estimated by the CEC)
- **Timeline:** Within 120 days of receiving DOE guidelines, the California Energy Commission will submit a strategy to the DOE and develop evaluation criteria. Based on this information, it is likely that localities will be able to apply for funding in the late summer months.
- **Details:** Funding will be available through the California Energy Commission. There are 262 small cities and 31 small counties eligible for this funding, which is an average of \$116,000 per grant.
- **Project Categories:** See 'Eligible Projects' at the end of this email. The CEC will likely add additional project categories per California priorities.

III. Competitive grants from the US DOE for all cities and counties nationwide, regardless of population.

- **Funding:** \$456 Million, \$56 million of which is restricted to small cities and counties ineligible for block grant funding
- **Timeline:** Further details on the application process are expected from the US DOE in late March or April 2009.
- **Details:** \$56 Million of this funding is restricted to small cities and counties ineligible for block grants.
- **Project Categories:** See 'Eligible Projects' at the end of this email.

ELIGIBLE PROJECTS UNDER EECBG

Source: ICLEI

Energy Efficiency and Conservation Strategy

- (1) Development and implementation of an energy efficiency and conservation strategy under section 545(b);
- (2) Retaining technical consultant services to assist the eligible entity in the development of such a strategy, including:
 - (A) Formulation of energy efficiency, energy conservation, and energy usage goals;
 - (B) Identification of strategies to achieve those goals:
 - (i) Through efforts to increase energy efficiency and reduce energy consumption; and
 - (ii) By encouraging behavioral changes among the population served by the eligible entity;
 - (C) Development of methods to measure progress in achieving the goals;
 - (D) Development and publication of annual reports to the population served by the eligible entity describing:
 - (i) The strategies and goals; and
 - (ii) The progress made in achieving the strategies and goals during the preceding calendar year; and
 - (E) Other services to assist in the implementation of the energy efficiency and conservation strategy;

Energy Audits and Building Retrofits

- (3) Conducting residential and commercial building energy audits;
- (4) Establishment of financial incentive programs for energy efficiency improvements;
- (5) The provision of grants to nonprofit organizations and governmental agencies for the purpose of performing energy efficiency retrofits;
- (6) Development and implementation of energy efficiency and conservation programs for buildings and facilities within the jurisdiction of the eligible entity, including—
 - (A) Design and operation of the programs;
 - (B) Identifying the most effective methods for achieving maximum participation and efficiency rates;
 - (C) Public education;
 - (D) Measurement and verification protocols; and
 - (E) Identification of energy efficient technologies;

Transportation Energy Efficiency

- (7) Development and implementation of programs to conserve energy used in transportation, including:
 - (A) Use of flex time by employers;
 - (B) Satellite work centers;
 - (C) Development and promotion of zoning guidelines or requirements that promotes energy efficient development;
 - (D) Development of infrastructure, such as bike lanes and pathways and pedestrian walkways;
 - (E) Synchronization of traffic signals; and
 - (F) Other measures that increase energy efficiency and decrease energy consumption;

Building Energy Codes

- (8) Development and implementation of building codes and inspection services to promote building energy efficiency;

Distributed Generation and District Power

(9) Application and implementation of energy distribution technologies that significantly increase energy efficiency, including:

- (A) Distributed resources; and
- (B) District heating and cooling systems;

Recycling and Material Energy Recovery

(10) activities to increase participation and efficiency rates for material conservation programs, including source reduction, recycling, and recycled content procurement programs that lead to increases in energy efficiency;

Landfill Methane Capture and Use

(11) The purchase and implementation of technologies to reduce, capture, and, to the maximum extent practicable, use methane and other greenhouse gases generated by landfills or similar sources;

LED/Efficient Traffic Signals

(12) Replacement of traffic signals and street lighting with energy efficient lighting technologies, including:

- (A) Light emitting diodes; and
- (B) any other technology of equal or greater energy efficiency;

Renewable Energy on Public Facilities

(13) Development, implementation, and installation on or in any government building of the eligible entity of onsite renewable energy technology that generates electricity from renewable resources, including:

- (A) Solar energy;
- (B) Wind energy;
- (C) Fuel cells; and
- (D) Biomass; and

Discretionary

(14) Any other appropriate activity, as determined by the Secretary, in consultation with:

- (A) The Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency;
- (B) The Secretary of Transportation; and
- (C) The Secretary of Housing and Urban Development.