

RECOVERY ACT UPDATE: July 24, 2009

DOE Delivers More than \$4 Million in Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grants to Cities and Counties Nationwide

The Department of Energy delivered more than \$4 million in funding from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act to support energy efficiency and conservation activities in 19 cities and counties across the country. These awards are the first ever under DOE's Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) Program, which is providing funds for projects in local communities to help them improve their energy efficiency, reduce their energy use and fossil fuel emissions, and create green jobs locally. The funds awarded today will be used to assist communities in developing their plans and strategies for implementing the full awards.

"With these Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grants, communities across the country will be able to make major investments in energy solutions that will strengthen America's economy and create jobs at the local level," said U.S. Energy Secretary Steven Chu. "The funding will be used to promote the cheapest, cleanest and most reliable energy technologies we have - energy efficiency and conservation - which can be deployed immediately. The grants also empower local communities to make strategic investments to help meet the nation's long term clean energy and climate goals."

The funds distributed today represent a portion of what these communities will ultimately receive under the Recovery Act. Local governments will use this initial planning funding to support the development of an energy efficiency and conservation strategy, which will detail how they plan to spend their funding on projects and programs that prioritize energy savings, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and create or retain jobs. Subsequent funding will be released once these communities have submitted their strategies to DOE.

The Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) Program was funded for the first time by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. The Recovery Act provides \$3.2 billion in total funding for the EECBG Program that will go to awarding formula grants to more than 2,300 cities, counties, states, and Indian tribes nationwide.

Activities eligible for EECBG funding include energy audits and building retrofits in the residential and commercial sector, the development and implementation of advanced building codes and inspections, and the creation of financial incentive programs for energy efficiency improvements.

Transparency and accountability are important priorities for the EECBG Program and all Recovery Act projects. Throughout the program’s implementation, DOE will provide strong oversight at the local, state, and tribal level, while emphasizing the need to quickly award funds to help create new jobs and stimulate local economies.

The following cities and counties are receiving awards today:

Applicant	State	Applicant Type	Award	Total Allocation
Los Angeles	CA	City	\$250,000	\$37,017,900
San Diego	CA	City	\$250,000	\$12,541,700
Fort Lauderdale	FL	City	\$100,000	\$2,036,400
Jacksonville	FL	City	\$250,000	\$7,891,500
Lake	FL	County	\$200,000	\$2,807,500
Seminole	FL	County	\$250,000	\$2,925,100
St. Clair	IL	County	\$80,000	\$2,040,800
Will	IL	County	\$250,000	\$3,009,700
St. Louis	MO	City	\$250,000	\$3,717,500
St. Louis	MO	County	\$225,000	\$8,488,900
Omaha	NE	City	\$250,000	\$4,331,500
Morris	NJ	County	\$250,000	\$4,228,300
Monroe	NY	County	250,000	\$2,063,200
Onondaga	NY	County	\$250,000	\$2,459,000
Rochester	NY	City	\$250,000	\$2,199,800
Town of Hempstead	NY	City	\$250,000	\$4,577,700
Tulsa	OK	City	\$250,000	\$3,883,500
Cumberland	PA	County	\$100,000	\$2,207,300
Prince William	VA	County	\$150,000	\$3,226,400