



## **RECOVERY ACT FUNDING AND STATE SUCCESS STORIES**

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I am pleased to be with you today to discuss some of the exciting activities going on in the energy area in the State of Iowa. I wanted to join with my state brethren in making clear that the examples I am providing to you are being repeated throughout the Nation.

## **Iowa's ARRA Program**

### **Funding Amounts and Purpose**

- State Energy Program - \$40.5 million to help reduce per capita energy consumption in Iowa by at least 25% by 2012
- Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grants - \$9.5 million to assist state and local governments in implementing strategies to reduce fossil fuel emissions, total energy use and improve energy efficiency
- Appliance Rebate Program - \$2.8 million to encourage appliance replacement through consumer rebates

### **State Energy Program**

- Held first funding solicitation
- The Office has awarded more than \$10 million in federal stimulus money for 62 projects around the state; we have \$23 million remaining to be obligated.
  - Technology demonstration category was significantly oversubscribed
    - The Office funded several high profile PV projects in the technology demonstration category
    - PV was one target for technology demonstration because while PV is commercialized, relatively few PV systems are installed in Iowa. It is important for home and building owners to see PV installations to increase adoption in Iowa and, potentially, make these systems more cost effective for the average consumer.
  - Revolving Loans - \$12 million available in total for private and non profit sector
  - Public sector projects coordinate ARRA funding with existing Building Energy Smart Program
    - Building Energy Smart allows public and select non-profit facilities (schools, state agencies, hospitals, local governments, private colleges) to identify and implement all cost effective energy management improvements with no upfront cost
    - Building Energy Smart takes advantage of Iowa's legislation that allows public facilities to finance energy improvements and pay for the improvements from the energy savings
      - The program has a long history (nearly 20 years) of partnering with private sector lenders to provide the upfront capital for public sector energy improvements
    - Public facilities can obtain their technical studies and leverage for ARRA funding by using the private sector financing available through Building Energy Smart

- These projects will save Iowans \$4.7 million in energy costs annually, provide nearly \$33.4 million in matching funds and create or retain 328 direct jobs.
- The Office is working closely with the U.S. Department of Energy to put stimulus dollars more quickly into the hands of Iowans.
  - As the Department of Energy increases its staffing levels and knowledge about specific federal labor and other requirements, Iowa is becoming increasingly able to provide certainty to applicants regarding funding parameters.
  - While not all questions regarding wages, environmental requirements and record keeping have been fully answered, we believe that the answers are forthcoming and that the projects in Iowa will ultimately meet both the energy savings and job creation goals.
- A training session has been held for grant awardees and a video training for awardees is available on our web site

Funded Projects Include:

- University of Iowa - This project installs a 57 KW photovoltaic solar array to expand the University's program of replacing existing gasoline-powered vehicles with electric vehicles. The PV system will be capable of charging up to 47 electric vehicles and will showcase electric car charging station with 21 parking spaces.
- World Food Prize - This project will make energy efficiency improvements to the old Des Moines Public Library building – a historic building in Des Moines that is being repurposed as a museum and office for the World Food Prize. Improvements will include solar panels, roofing, windows, day lighting, and exterior lighting.
- Iowa Utilities Board - The project installs a hybrid renewable system consisting of roof top PV panels on a new building that will house the Iowa Utilities Board and the Office of the Consumer Advocate. The building will be a showcase demonstration of how offices can be built to be highly efficient and to take advantage of renewable energy on site.
- Kirkwood Community College – This project will install three 1.5 mw wind turbines that replace 70% of the energy use on campus. It will also establish a sustainable energy center for educating students and other colleges on energy efficiency and sustainability.
- Heartland Power Cooperative – This rural electric cooperative will install a 20KW wind turbine and a 2.1 KW PV system at their office. The energy produced will be monitored and information about the systems will be displayed on the Coop's web site so coop members and the general public can see the real energy production data from the systems.
- Interfaith Power and Light - The project, Cool Congregations, is a program that engages members of the congregations in reducing their daily energy use and carbon emissions. The program has also been adopted by six other Interfaith Power and Light affiliates.

- Principiant Hotel Company (Hotel Fort Des Moines) – The Hotel Fort Des Moines is a landmark in Iowa, known to many for serving as a training center for the Woman’s Army Corps in World War 2. This project is a part of a multi million dollar renovation of the Hotel, making the building energy efficient by updating the mechanical systems, including cooling, heating, the hot water plant, air conditioning and ventilation.
- Iowa Association of Municipal Utilities – The association will use funding to study the impact of dynamic pricing on adoption of energy efficiency in select communities in Iowa.
- Maquoketa Valley Electric Cooperative – This project will install and demonstrate a LED retrofit at the Coop Headquarters.

### **Appliance Rebate Program**

- Rebates will be available for Iowans beginning March 1
- A webinar will be held with retailers and utilities to inform them of rebate program processes
- Retailers and utilities have been involved in program design

### **Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG)**

- Request for Proposals released on January 29, 2010
- On line application available along with two support telephone lines – one for technical aspects of the program and the other for administrative aspects
- Conference calls will be held with potential applicants and stakeholders to ensure all understand the technical and application requirements
- Iowa has a Community Grants program, funded through the state’s Power Fund, that will work well in conjunction with the EECBG projects