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ECAA Expansion (AB 33, Ting, 2021)

Public Workshop, May 27, 2022



Agenda

- Program Overview
- Technical Assistance
- Recent Legislation
- Proposed Program Changes
- Questions, Comments and Discussion







Welcome

Commissioner J. Andrew McAllister, Ph.D.





- Webinar conducted remotely via Zoom and is being recorded
- 3 ways to comment
 - Use the "raise hand" feature in Zoom
 - Over the telephone: dial *9 to "raise hand" and *6 to mute/unmute your phone line
 - Type your question in the Q&A window
- Written comments due June 7, 2022
 - Submit through the <u>e-commenting systems (22-ECAA-01)</u>: https://efiling.energy.ca.gov/Ecomment/Ecomment.aspx?docketnumber=22-ECAA-01
 - Subscribe to List Subscriptions: <u>https://www.energy.ca.gov/programs-and-topics/programs/energy-conservation-assistance-act</u>



Program Overview



ECAA Program History & Impact

Energy Conservation Assistance Act program (ECAA) provides lowand no-interest loans to schools and local governments for energyefficiency retrofits and clean energy generation projects.

- Over 900 projects have been financed
- Over \$500 million in loans provided





ECAA has two separate programs:

- ECAA "Regular"
 - Eligible entities include cities, counties, local agencies, notfor-profit hospitals
 - Currently a 1% loan program
- ECAA-Ed
 - Local Educational Agencies are eligible
 - Currently a no-interest loan program





ECAA operates as a revolving loan program

- Loan amount up to \$3 million
- Available on a rolling basis
- Loans are repaid with project energy cost savings
- Funding revolves to be reloaned to new projects





Eligible Measures

- Lighting and efficiency retrofits
- Solar PV
- HVAC
- Other measures that achieve energy cost savings
- EV Charging Infrastructure (New)
- Energy Storage (New)



ECAA-Ed

- SB 110 (2017) required the program be competitive Sunsets, reverting to rolling application process
- Will re-launch under the AB 33 expansion





Repayment of a loan begins shortly <u>after</u> a project is completed

- Repayments occur 2x a year (June and December)
 - ECAA Regular: 17-year maximum term
 - ECAA-Ed: 20-year maximum term



- The City of Orange Cove received a loan of over \$2 million
- LED lighting upgrades at seven city sites
- Ground-mounted solar PV installation at the City's Wastewater Treatment Plant
- Over 961,000 kWh saved annually
- Over \$142,000 in annual energy cost savings





Both ECAA Regular and ECAA-Ed currently have funding available for loans:

- ECAA Regular: Over \$22 million
- ECAA-Ed: Over \$21 million





Technical Assistance Programs

Energy Partnership & Bright Schools

Purpose	Provide funding for technical assistance, including energy audits to identify potential energy-savings measures.
Eligibility	Energy Partnership Program: entities eligible for the ECAA Regular programBright Schools: entities eligible for the ECAA-Ed program
Amount	Up to \$20,000 for each applicant
Contractor	Work performed by a contractor hired by the CEC
Other Requirements	Energy audits funded by this program should lead to an energy efficiency or energy generation project within two years



Recent Legislation and Proposed Program Changes

AB 33 (Ting, 2021) Legislative Changes

- Eligible measures expanded to:
 - EV charging infrastructure
 - Energy storage
- Multiple project measures can be bundled to determine overall cost savings
- Eligible applicants expanded to include California Native American Tribes





Proposal:

- Finance multiple-site projects
- Evaluate eligible measures comprehensively to determine energy cost savings over the life of the project









Proposal:

- Allow EV charging as an eligible measure
- Limit to public fleet EV charging infrastructure





Proposal:

- Allow energy storage as an eligible measure
- Standalone measure or part of a larger project





Off Peak Charging

On Peak Price	\$.15 per kWh
Off Peak Price	\$.05 per kWh
Savings from a 100 kW Battery Energy Storage System	\$50 per week
Annual cost savings	\$2,600



Demand Savings

- Demand calculated by most utilities as the highest 15-minute increment in a monthly billing cycle
- Savings achieved by lowering peak load and reducing peak demand charges





California Native American Tribes (Tribes) are now eligible for financing under the ECAA program.

 Loans & Technical Assistance





Other upcoming changes to the ECAA program:

- ECAA-Ed no longer competitive
- Community Colleges eligible for ECAA-Ed





• Application materials and instructions can be found on the program webpage:

https://www.energy.ca.gov/programs-and-topics/programs/energyconservation-assistance-act

- Staff will review applications and provide feedback
- Loan applications are considered at a CEC Business Meeting (typically 60-90 days after complete application)
- Once approved, agreements can be executed and forwarded in approximately two weeks



- Is the existing loan maximum of \$3 million adequate for the expanded types of measures that can be funded?
- Are there other modifications to the program that would improve its impact or streamline the process for applicants?
- Is the ECAA application process simple and straightforward? Are there areas for improvement?

 Is the current scope and delivery of technical assistance appropriate for industry needs?



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Comment Period Ends	June 7, 2022
CEC staff review and consider comments	Summer 2022
CEC staff develop new Program Opportunity Notices	Summer 2022
Program Opportunity Notices Published	Summer/Fall 2022



- Comments can also be submitted following this workshop:
- Comment period through June 7, 2022
- Submit comments through the program docket: Submit through the <u>e-commenting</u> <u>systems (22-ECAA-01)</u>:



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- ECAA Program Webpage: <u>https://www.energy.ca.gov/programs-and-</u> <u>topics/programs/energy-conservation-assistance-act</u>
- Program Docket: <u>https://efiling.energy.ca.gov/Lists/DocketLog.aspx?docketnu</u> <u>mber=22-ECAA-01</u>
- ECAA Statute: <u>https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/codes_displayText.xht</u> <u>ml?lawCode=PRC&division=15.&title=&part=&chapter=5.2.</u> <u>&article=</u>





ECAA Email: PubProg@energy.ca.gov

For more information, visit the ECAA program website at:

https://www.energy.ca.gov/programs-and-topics/programs/energy-conservationassistance-act