

DOCKET

09-OII-1

From: Recovery
To: [REDACTED]
Date: 3/27/2009 9:02 AM
Subject: Re: blockgrant

SE
DATE Mar 27 2009
RECD. June 22 2009

Information on the Energy Commission's existing programs for K-12 schools is available at http://www.energy.ca.gov/efficiency/public_programs.html.

In addition, this is the text of the updated information on economic recovery funding that was sent to the recovery listserve on March 26: (Please be sure to sign up for the listserve at <http://www.energy.ca.gov/recovery> to receive updates as more information becomes available.)

The DOE today released the guidelines and the funding allocations for the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant portion of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act.

California was allocated \$351.5 million for local governments to use for projects and programs to reduce total energy use. About \$302 million goes directly to large cities and counties. The DOE allocations for individual cities and counties block grants and the program guidelines are available at the Energy Commission's Energy-related Economic web page: <http://www.energy.ca.gov/recovery/blockgrant.html>

Interested parties are encouraged to contact their local city or county directly for ways to partner for the Block grant funding and assist local governments meet these goals.

The Energy Commission was allocated \$49.6 million to support energy efficiency and conservation programs for small rural counties and cities as well as statewide efforts. The Energy Commission will make 60 percent (\$29.7 million) of these funds available to small cities and counties through a competitive bid process. The remaining 40 percent can be expended at the Energy Commission's discretion.

The Energy Commission is preparing guidelines describing how the block grant funds may be used and awarded emphasizing project cost-effectiveness, energy savings, project readiness and job creation. Guidelines are not ready and there is no application process yet available.

Updates and current information regarding the criteria and the application process will be sent through this ListServe.

Local government, small cities and counties are urged to sign up at ListServe <http://www.energy.ca.gov/recovery/blockgrant.html>

In Other News

Governor Schwarzenegger announced the Federal Economic Stimulus Task Force for tracking federal economic stimulus funds coming to California. The Task Force will be led by Cynthia Bryant, Deputy Chief of Staff to the Governor (OPR) and Chief Deputy Director of the Department of Finance Ana Matosantos will be the Deputy Coordinator. Other Task Force members are listed in the Governor's press release at: <http://gov.ca.gov/press-release/11814/>

Todd Ferrara, Deputy Secretary for the Natural Resources Agency has been designated to oversee energy programs.

For more information:

<http://www.energy.ca.gov/recovery/>

(If link above doesn't work, please copy entire link into your web browser's URL)

>>> <California.Economic.Recovery.Contact.Us.Page@listserver.energy.ca.gov> 3/25/2009 1:55 PM >>>

Name: [REDACTED]

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Phone: [REDACTED]

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Email: [REDACTED]
Subject: blockgrant

Comments: I understand that a section in the Stimulus package reserving funding for energy efficiency in schools was stricken from the recovery bill at the last minute. Can the CEC make recommendations to reserve monies specifically for energy conservation and energy management in K-12? I am in the process of working with a group of schools in our county to put together a workshop and am interested if this type of funding would be available at a state or county level specifically for setting up energy conservation programs in K12. As you know budgetary constraints may not allow for this type of administration currently. However, it is an important function in K12 facilities management. If there were grant monies apportioned, it might be easier to accomplish energy conservation in schools.

Thank you.

[REDACTED]

From: Recovery
To: [REDACTED]
Date: 3/19/2009 10:40 AM
Subject: Re: sep

SEP

Thank you for your comments. We have forwarded them to our Energy Efficiency and Renewables Division for their review.

Please sign up for the listserver at <http://www.energy.ca.gov/recovery/> for information updates.

[REDACTED]
Media and Public Communications Office
California Energy Commission

>>> <California.Economic.Recovery.Contact.Us.Page@listserver.energy.ca.gov> 3/16/2009 6:26 PM >>>

Name: [REDACTED]
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Subject: sep

Comments: Above-Market Funds for New Renewable Energy Resources

SB 1036 in 2007 deleted the New Renewable Resources Account (NRRRA) from state law, transferred its current monies and future collections to investor-owned utilities, renamed the monies above-market funds (AMFs), and directed that AMFs be used to fund the costs of renewable portfolio standard contracts in excess of the market price referent (MPR). As we understand it now, AMFs are close to being depleted, and ARRA funds will be made available to the State Energy Program (SEP), and yet the NRRRA fund no longer exists within the program. Solar Millennium requests that a portion of ARRA funds allocated to the SEP be used to support new renewable energy resource development. 51.5% of public goods charge funds, prior to the passage of SB 1036, deposited in the Renewable Resources Trust Fund went to the NRRRA to fund new renewable energy projects.

Additional Agency Staff to Expedite Approval of Solar Project Applications

It is important to support the CEC in streamlining and shortening its AFC review process. Currently, the AFC review process takes 18-20 months. This is especially crucial now, as the ARRA provides for temporary grants in lieu of the 30% solar tax credit, for projects that commence construction by December 31, 2010. In order to ensure that solar projects can meet this timeline, it is crucial to achieve a joint BLM/CEC EIS/AFC process that is no longer than 12-months total. A portion of State Energy Program (SEP) funds have been used in the past to fund staff. If it is determined to be necessary, we urge that a portion of ARRA funds allocated to the SEP be dedicated to fund additional staff to process renewable energy project applications.

Thank you for considering these comments.

SEP

From: Recovery
To: [REDACTED]
Date: 3/13/2009 10:57 AM
Subject: Re: California Economic Recovery Contact Us Page

Thanks for your e-mail. The federal tax credits have been increased under the economic recovery act. So, that may help convince homeowners to install PV systems. Already more than 437 megawatts of installed capacity - the size of a small power plant - have been installed.

Electricity produced by solar photovoltaic (PV) systems surpassed solar thermal electricity in installed capacity in 2008. The cumulative installed capacity reached about 440 megawatts (MW) at the end of 2008, eclipsing the 354 MW of solar thermal. Assuming each system installed kW produced 1,500 kWh, the California PV systems produced 661,500,000 kWh (661.5 GWh) of electricity. That's nearly as much as the 675 GWh of electricity by solar thermal in 2007.

So, the program seems to be doing well at this point, and it is on schedule to meet the 3,000 MW goal by 2017.

[REDACTED]
Media & Public Communications Office
California Energy Commission

>>> <California.Economic.Recovery.Contact.Us.Page@listserver.energy.ca.gov> 03/13/09 8:22 AM >>>

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Email: [REDACTED]
Subject: sep Specifically solar energy

Comments: As we all know and I will just state it again, there is a dire need for affordable financing for residential customers to install solar electric and solar hot water. The tax credits are great but not everyone can use them. There just needs to be more incentive if we really want to get this program going in the right direction!! Thank you!!

SEP

From: Recovery
To: [REDACTED]
Date: 3/13/2009 10:09 AM
Subject: Weatherization

At this point, we are still determining the details of the process, and we are awaiting word from the US Dept. of Energy on specific guidelines about what types of projects will be funded and under which program. The California Department of Community Services and Development will be participating. What information they have on weatherization will be part of the presentation. There is also a link to the CDCS on the Energy Commission's Recovery page.

Please listen in to our Webinar today. We should be providing more information then. And, if you haven't signed up already, please make sure you are signed up for the Recovery listserver on our website at:
<http://www.energy.ca.gov/recovery/>

[REDACTED]
Media and Public Communications Office
California Energy Commission

>>> <California.Economic.Recovery.Contact.Us.Page@listserver.energy.ca.gov> 3/12/2009 5:13 PM >>>

Name: [REDACTED]
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Email: [REDACTED]
Subject: OTHER Low Income Weatherization Funding

Comments: How can the CSD and the IOUs coordinate joint efforts to ensure both entities achieve their treated unit goals and savings goals for each program term. Furthermore, do you see opportunities to achieve deeper energy efficiency savings and serve more homes by leveraging state and federal low income energy efficiency dollars?

How can data be shared between CSD contractors and IOU contractors so that both parties don't target previously treated homes?

Consistent with the goals of the stimulus, what strategies have you thought of to sustain the jobs after initial funds have been spent.

Consistent with the goals of the stimulus what are the strategies to maximize the benefits to the customers by leveraging resources with IOUs, LIHEAP, and other agencies.

In regards to the reporting requirements in the stimulus what flexibility has the US DOE provided to states to avoid unnecessary reporting duplication.