

COUNTY OF PLACER FACILITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT

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California Energy Commission Dockets Office, MS-4 Re:Docket No. 09-0II-01 EECBG Program 1516 Ninth Street, MS-39 Sacramento, CA 95814

July 27, 2009

DOCKET

09-OII-1

DATE July 27 2009

RECD. July 27 2009

Dear Commissioners,

Thank you for soliciting comments on the proposed Energy Block Grant Guidelines. In reviewing the proposed guidelines and the DOE documents, I have the following comments and questions.

- 1. Population for Counties. In calculating the Population-Based Formula for Counties, is this number the total population of the County, or the net population after excluding cities that have received direct ARRA funding? Bear in mind that Counties provide services to all residents (including those who live in the incorporated areas), such as human services, administration, emergency services and law enforcement. This is an important factor that will determine which projects may be eligible to the Counties. In Placer County, the difference is approximately 202,000 in population or \$1.1M in potential ARRA funds.
- 2. Eligible Activities. The DOE Announcement identifies potential Eligible Activities, specifically renewable energy technologies (e.g. onsite solar energy or Photovoltaics) on Government Buildings (Item 13, page 8, Initial Announcement from DOE). The draft guidelines from the CEC, however, do not make specific mention of renewable energy generation projects for government buildings as eligible activities. The draft guidelines discuss energy savings, in BTUs, as the cost-effectiveness criteria, but do not discuss energy generation. Does AB 2176 or CEC policy exclude the use of ARRA funds for renewable energy generation? In our jurisdiction, we are evaluating projects for potential inclusion, and would like to know if photovoltaics have been excluded from the EECBG by the CEC.

11476 C Avenue Auburn CA 95603 Entrance at 2855 2nd Street

- 3. Direct Equipment Purchase Option. Will information identifying the costs and availability of direct purchase equipment, and types of equipment, be available at the time of grant submission by agencies? How should applications address this option?
- 4. Competitive Grants. The distinction between formula-based grants and the Competitive Grants, as outlined on page 9, is not fully defined. Please provide expanded information on the guidelines for Competitive Grants in order for jurisdictions to evaluate potential applications.

Thank you for considering these comments.

Respectfully,

Joel T. Swift, AIA LEED AP

Deputy Director