



Helping Massachusetts Municipalities Create a Greener Energy Future

*Green Communities Webinar
May 15, 2009
10:00am*

Annotations and notes from webinar
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**American Recovery and
Reinvestment Act (ARRA):**

**Stimulus Funding
Opportunities for:**

- (1) Communities < 35,000**
- (2) All cities and towns**

Agenda

- **Overview of ARRA Funding Opportunities**
- **Overview of Energy Efficiency Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) Program**
- **EECBG Program Specifics**
 - Competitive Municipal Grants < 35,000
 - Energy Information Reporting System (all cities and towns)
 - Energy code training (all cities and towns)
 - Competitive Technical Assistance grants (all cities & towns)
- **Compliance**
- **Green Communities Resources**



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ARRA – Stimulus Funding Opportunities for Municipalities

- **Alternative Fueled Vehicles Pilot Grant Program**
 - Due to DOER May 18; www.mass.gov/doer
- **Clean Renewable Energy Bonds (CREBs)**
 - Interest-free bonds for clean energy production facilities; awards made from smallest to largest
 - Applications due August 4th to IRS
- **Energy Conservation Bonds - \$67M for MA**
 - Interest-free bonds for capital expenditures for a wide range of activities that reduce greenhouse gas emissions allocated to states by population and to large local governments
- **EECBG- \$400M**
 - competitive nationwide; awaiting guidance
- **EECBG - Formula**

DoER will provide education on CREB & ECB.

Both can be considered "leveraged" funding for EECB competitive grants

MA communities should be well positioned - expect guidance in June.

EECBG - Overview

- Under ARRA, funding allocated based on population
- Communities > 35,00 eligible for direct grants from US Department of Energy (DOE); MA allocations range from \$149,000 - \$6.5M
- Massachusetts DOER eligible for \$14,752,000, the following required:
 - Sub-grants to municipalities with < 35,000 residents (309 in MA)
 - Other uses identified in ARRA
 - DOER must apply to DOE no later than June 25, 2009
 - Minimum 60% (\$8,851,000) must be provided for the sub-grants

- DoER planning to submit their proposal to DoE by 6/5/09
- DoE told them to expect 30-45 day turnaround for approval of program
- DoER will meantime be working on submission plan
- Expect about 6 week turnaround for proposals to DoER
- Funds must be obligated w/in 180 days of DoE approval of plan
- Period of performance 36 months, but administration expects 18-24

EECBG Overview – DOER Program

- Provide \$12,252,000 (~85%) for competitive sub-grants
- Remaining \$2,500,000:
 - Energy Information Reporting System to all 351 cities and towns
 - MA State Building Energy code training for all building code officials
Adopting IECC under Green Communities - realize that training is scarce and needed
 - Grants for technical assistance
- In developing program, Green Communities considered
 - List of projects submitted to Lt Governor's Office
\$1.3b submitted
 - US DOE Funding criteria
 - Needs of municipalities
 - MA Energy Goals
 - Other available programs

DoER has asked utilities to take on energy audit and conservation programs, so are not focusing on these for EECB.
Utilities have signaled cooperation, but we'll see what actually happens.



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PROPOSED EECBG GRANT PROGRAMS

Grant Program	Program Budget	Eligible Municipalities	
		All 351	< 35,000
1. Competitive funding will be available for the following projects: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Solar PV Other Clean Energy Technologies Combined Heat & Power (CHP), solar thermal, etc. Performance Contract buy-down 	\$12,252,000		X
2. Provide DOER's Energy Information Reporting System free	\$1,500,000	X	
3. Energy code training for all local building officials	\$1,000,000	X	
4. Technical Assistance Grants for owners agents, energy reduction plans or other activities to support the competitive grant projects		X	





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1. Competitive Municipal Grants < 35,000

Program	Description	Eligibility
Competitive Municipal Grants	<p>Competitive funding will be available to fund the following projects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Solar PV • Other Clean Energy Technologies • Performance Contract buy-down <p>Grant awards will be capped at \$150,000</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Shovel Ready project ✓ Jobs created ✓ Greenhouse Gas reductions ✓ Funds leveraged <p>Shovel Ready - ready to advertise; technically & economically feasible</p> <p>Not required, but will help through increasing your project's contribution to program goals (jobs, ghg reductions)</p>

Application Process

DOER will submit an application to US DOE to fund this grant program by June 25, 2009. The Secretary of Energy has 120 days to approve the program. DOER will announce the application process once the program has been approved by US DOE.

Expect 30-45 days



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2. ENERGY INFORMATION REPORTING SYSTEM

EIS will be provided to all 351 cities and towns free of charge. It will provide access to comprehensive up-to-date energy usage and cost Information. Among the uses are:

Have been piloting this per my meeting with Mark & Meg in Feb. Using EECB funding will significantly accelerate rollout - 6 to 8 month target.

- (1) Benchmarking consumption and identify priority targets for efficiency investments
- (2) Measure results
- (3) Develop and monitor emissions inventory and track and report emission reductions.

Standard Features of this web based, point and click system include:

- Electronic download of utility data
- Standard and custom reporting
- Integration of utility billing and usage data with building and energy end-use information

Similar to the NStar portfolio manager tool I provided information about a year or so ago.

Will be compatible with NStar portfolio manager and ICLE software tools



3. BUILDING OFFICIALS TRAINING – ENERGY CODE

Under the Green Communities Act, the Board of Building Regulations and Standards (BBRS) and DOER are required to develop a program for training on the MA state energy code for building officials.

- EECEBG funds will be used to jumpstart this training for all local building officials. Included will be training regarding the Stretch Code

Stretch code (required for GCA) was passed last week
- No application process will be required. Training opportunities will be announced.

4. TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE GRANT PROGRAM

The Technical Assistance Grant Program is open to all 351 cities and towns in Massachusetts.

- The grant program is competitive and Municipalities must meet certain eligibility requirements to apply for any of the categories within the grant program
- Technical Assistance grants will be capped based on the type of assistance awarded and cities and towns are limited to a single technical assistance grant.
- Municipalities will be required to procure the services funded by this grant program.
- DOER will announce the application process once the program has been approved by US DOE.



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TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE CATEGORIES

Program	Description	Eligibility
<p>Technical Assistance</p> <div data-bbox="258 544 705 748" style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p>Important opportunity for communities. Use these consultants to get the process right, then ensure you get the expected results.</p> </div>	<p>Owners Agent – Performance Contracting</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Capped at \$10,000</i></p>	<p>√ Meet general criteria for entering into performance contract</p> <p>√ Formal vote to pursue performance contracting</p>
	<p>Owners Agent – Clean Energy Technology</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Capped at \$10,000</i></p>	<p>√ Formal vote to pursue project</p> <p>√ Demonstrate that municipality has pursued energy efficiency strategies for the building</p>
	<p>Develop energy reduction plan</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Capped at \$5,000</i></p>	<p>√ Formal vote to commit to energy reduction plan</p> <div data-bbox="1319 1148 1715 1239" style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p>BoS vote sufficient to meet "formal vote" criteria</p> </div>

EECBG – COMPLIANCE

- Massachusetts has been selected as one of 16 states that the federal government, specifically the Government Accountability Office (GAO) and the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) that will be scrutinizing use of stimulus funds.
- This means not just looking at what entities receive funds, either through formula or a grant process, but how each decision was made from start to finish.
- We encourage you to look at your internal controls and update them to ensure that all decisions related to stimulus funds can be documented.
- Specific reporting instructions will be included as part of the application process

Transparency will be a focus area for DoER and administration.

REMINDER TO MUNICIPALITIES > 35,000

The deadline to submit an application to US DOE is **June 25, 2009**. Green Communities reminds you to:

- Sign up for a DUNS Number at: www.dnb.com/US/duns_update/
- Register with Central Contractor Registration (CCR) at: www.ccr.gov
- Register with FedConnect at www.fedconnect.net; monitor Q&A posted here
- Download Application at: www.grants.gov (CFDA Number 81.128)
- RESOURCE: www.eecbg.energy.gov Recently revised

EECBG RESOURCES

Green Communities Division

- Mark Sylvia, Director
 - Mark.sylvia@state.ma.us, 617- 626-7339
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Websites:

DOER: www.mass.gov/doer

Green Communities:

www.mass.gov/energy/greencommunities