



## The Next Round of EECBG Funding \$453.72 Million Available for Competitive EECBG Program

# EECBG

Energy Efficiency  
and Conservation  
Block Grant

Updated  
September 22, 2009

The Recovery Act appropriated \$3.2 billion for the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) program, \$453.72 million of which is required to be awarded on a competitive basis. With the entitlement and non-entitlement EECBG programs well underway, the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) is planning for the competitive component of EECBG. The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) released a Request for Information (RFI) on September 14, 2009 to solicit feedback on the proposed structure of the grant program. The RFI gives insight into the proposed structure of the competitive EECBG programs and is the basis of the discussion below.

Please note that this information is preliminary and subject to change pending responses to the RFI. Responses to the questions within the RFI are due September 28, 2009. For more information please visit <http://www.eecbg.energy.gov/>.

### Program Goal

The draft goal of the competitive EECBG program is to stimulate activities that move beyond traditional public awareness campaigns, program maintenance, and demonstration projects. The DOE seeks to stimulate activities and investments which can:

- Deliver verified energy savings from a variety of projects in the jurisdiction of the applicant, with an emphasis on efficiency improvements in residential, commercial and public buildings;

- Achieve broader market participation and greater efficiency savings from retrofits;
- Sustain themselves beyond the grant monies and the grant period by designing a viable strategy for program sustainability into the overall program plan; and,
- Serve as examples of comprehensive community-scale energy efficiency strategies that could be replicated in other communities across the country.

### Program Funding

Funding for the program is divided into entitlement and non-entitlement categories as follows:

1. \$390.04 million for entitlement EECBG jurisdictions, which means States, U.S. territories, counties of over 200,000 in population, cities of over 35,000 in population, and Indian Tribes.
2. \$63.68 million for non-entitlement EECBG jurisdictions, which means counties under 200,000 in population and cities under 35,000 in population.

The DOE encourages jurisdictions to partner together; however, it is not clear in the current RFI how entitlement and non-entitlement jurisdictions may work together or combine funding applications. Once obtained, funding must be expended within three (3) years.

### Program Structure: Entitlement EECBG Entities

Entities eligible for EECBG entitlements (see #1 above) are eligible to apply under Topic 1, the Retrofit Ramp-Up Program. Key facts:

- The DOE plans to fund Topic 1 with up to \$390.04 million in EECBG funds.
- The DOE plans to award from 4 to 8 awards that are between \$50 million and \$150 million each.
- No cost share is required with other jurisdictions; however, programs must be highly leveraged (i.e. at least 5:1 per Federal dollar invested).

The DOE is targeting these funds for a small number of high profile, high impact awards that will enable large-scale programs of ongoing energy efficiency retrofits on residential, commercial and public buildings in geographically focused areas. Projects should be broadly replicable and scalable as well as designed to be self-sustaining beyond the funding period. The DOE strongly encourages applications that include several partners, including utilities, regional planning agencies, businesses,

—continued on reverse

PMC will update this document as more information becomes available. For more information or to hear about how PMC can assist with the application process, please contact Michael McCormick or Jillian Rich at (866) 828-6PMC or [climate@pmcworld.com](mailto:climate@pmcworld.com).

Updated 9/22/09

—continued from reverse

financial institutions, non-governmental organizations, and State energy offices.

For examples of Retrofit Ramp Up programs, please see page 5 of the RFI at <http://www.eecbg.energy.gov>.

**Program Structure:**

**Non-Entitlement EECBG Entities**

Non-entitlement EECBG entities that did not receive a funding allocation from the DOE (see #2 above) are eligible to apply under Topic 2, General Innovation Fund for Ineligible Entities. Key facts:

- The DOE plans to fund Topic 2 with up to \$63.68 million in EECBG funds.
- The DOE plans to award 15-60 awards that are between \$1 million and \$5 million each.

- No recipient cost share is required; however, funds are encouraged to be highly leveraged by non-federal funds.

Topic 2, General Innovation Fund for Ineligible Entities, will focus on strategies that are highly leveraged, are broadly replicable and scalable, and are capable of sustaining beyond the funding period. Partnerships and aggregations are encouraged, including those with other eligible local jurisdictions, regional planning agencies, businesses, utilities, non-governmental organizations, and State energy offices.

Topic 1 seeks applications that target “game-changing” ideas that permanently realign markets by changing the way investors, regulators, consumers, and policy

makers approach decisions on energy efficiency. Applications are expected to address key obstacles such as upfront cost, lack of consumer confidence, etc. The following are examples of potential areas of activity:

- Strategies that use energy efficiency, demand response, and on-site generation as capacity;
- Innovative fiscal and financial strategies;
- Regional, State, and local planning coordination.

**The Application**

The DOE has not indicated when applications will be due. Interested entities are encouraged to submit comments on the RFI by following instructions at <http://www.eecbg.energy.gov>. Please check [www.carbonconscious.us](http://www.carbonconscious.us) for regular updates.