

**United States Department of Energy
State Energy Advisory Board (STEAB)
Resolution 12-01**

Subject: Recommendation to enact the Resolutions from the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) Sub-committee as compiled since June of 2010.

Background: On June 10, 2010, the STEAB adopted a resolution to form the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant Sub-committee (EECBG Sub-committee). The EECBG Sub-committee was to operate under the oversight of STEAB and was intended to enable the EECBG Program to fulfill the regulatory requirement of 42 USC 17153(f), which directs the Department of Energy to establish a State and Local advisory committee to advise the Secretary regarding administration, implementation, and evaluation of the EECBG Program for the duration of the EECBG Program.

Below are the provisions that were adopted with respect to the structure and organization of the committee:

The EECBG Sub-committee objectives are to:

1. Make recommendations to the Assistant Secretary for Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy on the goals and objectives of the EECBG Program;
2. Make administrative and policy recommendations to improve the EECBG Program;
3. Serve as a liaison between the EECBG recipient Cities, Counties, Tribes and States and the Department of Energy on the EECBG Program;
4. Encourage transfer of the results of the EECBG activities carried out by the Federal Government; and
5. Report on the activities carried out by the EECBG Sub-committee in the previous fiscal year.

The EECBG Sub-committee consists of a minimum of six (6) members, plus the EECBG HQ Federal employee, currently Ted Donat, as the Chairperson. Members are geographically diverse with not more than one person from the same State, along with gender and ethnic diversity. The EECBG Sub-committee meets in-person at least twice per fiscal year. Mark Johnson served as EECBG Sub-committee Chair until his departure from DOE in March 2011. At that time, Ted Donat, Program Lead for EECBG, took over as Chair.

The current members of the EECBG Sub-committee are:

- **Aaron Klemm**, Energy Project Manager, City of Huntington Beach, CA
- **Angela Fyfe**, Associate Director, Operations, Governor's Energy Office, Denver, CO
- **Peter Johnston**, Project Manager, Burns & McDonnell Engineering Company, Phoenix, AZ
- **Roy J. Estell**, Facilities & Transportation Services, Fulton County, Atlanta, GA
- **Samuel C. Steele**, Sustainability Administrator, City of Fort Worth, TX

- **Sara Stiltner**, EECBG Manager, City of Seattle, WA

The following EECBG Sub-committee meetings were convened and it was out of those meetings that the following recommendations were developed:

- **Meeting 1:** August 11th, 2010, Seattle, WA (Chair: Mark Johnson)
- **Meeting 2:** November 17th, 2010, Huntington Beach, CA (Chair: Mark Johnson)
- **Meeting 3:** March 16th, 2011, Phoenix, AZ (Chair: Mark Johnson)
- **Meeting 4:** June 15th, 2011, Denver, CO (Chair: Ted Donat)
- **Meeting 5:** September 14th, 2011, Atlanta, GA (Chair: Ted Donat)
- **Meeting 6:** February 1st, 2012, Ft. Worth, TX (Chair: Ted Donat)
- **Meeting 7:** Scheduled for May 15th-16th in Arlington, VA (Chair: Ted Donat)

Recommendations: The State Energy Advisory Board recommends that EERE adopt the below recommendations of the EECBG Sub-committee:

- **Expand Green Button Initiative:** Many utilities have been reluctant to share usage information, citing confidentiality concerns. This lack of transparency significantly hampers innovation in energy management and is akin to having a code enforcement program where the locations of the infractions are unknown. The Green Button initiative has shown that government can bring stakeholders together in a meaningful way to encourage data sharing. Over \$1 billion in EECBG funds were invested in building energy upgrades. DOE has an opportunity to add a large public sector component to the Green Button initiative. This would encourage another round of innovation by making energy consumption data available to third parties. It would also facilitate transparent tracking of the energy savings that obtained from the large Recovery Act investment. (*Source: EECBG Sub-committee Meeting 1, Phoenix, AZ, March 16, 2011*)
- **Disposition of EECBG Data Post-ARRA:** Create a searchable database collection of EECBG closeout profiles that can be used as a future resource for project planning. Resource information should include items listed on grantee EECBG Activity Worksheets, as well as second-tier information, as available, such as Building Project Type (e.g., roofs, windows/doors, lighting, HVAC, water); Funding Source/Amount (e.g., grant, leverage, financing); Incentive Source/Amount. (*Source: EECBG Sub-committee Meeting 4, Denver, CO, June 15, 2011*)
- **Financing Standards and Facilities:**
 - Create a national/regional EE loan facility. Potential vehicles include: Infrastructure Bank model, Community banks or credit unions, Regional QECEBs (*Source: EECBG Sub-Committee Meeting 5, Atlanta, GA, September 14, 2011*)

- Internal Services Departments need some top level guidance with Finance & Budgeting and evolving Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) standards. The guidance should be directed towards devising a budget-neutral means of managing utility costs. OMB should create a working group to work with DOE to come up with Best Practice Guidelines for financing energy efficiency and sustainability via debt-financed energy savings. (*Source: EECBG Sub-committee Meeting 6, Ft. Worth, TX, February 1, 2012*)
- **Continued Funding of EECBG:** Continuously fund EECBG program as HUD does CDBG so local communities can count on a recurring revenue stream and plan for it. Communities have been reluctant to spend money on any programs that would be ongoing without local dollars to contribute. (*Source: EECBG Sub-committee Meeting 1, Seattle, WA, August 11, 2010*)
- **Regional Energy Networks:** Create case studies, best practices and recommend that recipients without energy management expertise form or join Regional Energy Management Networks, or that EECBG recipients of a certain size (perhaps less than \$500,000 award) be managed by the State Energy Office, or its delegate – a Regional Energy Network. These offices provide public sector energy management expertise at a scale that is responsive to local practices and budgets. (*Source: EECBG Sub-committee Meeting 1, Seattle, WA, August 11, 2010*)
- **Define Best Practices in Energy Management:**
 - Encourage the addition of the words “Energy Efficiency” or “Sustainability” to the titles of Energy Managers. (*Source: EECBG Sub-committee Meeting 6, Ft. Worth, TX, February 1, 2012*)
 - DOE should share best practices regarding the Energy Manager role, qualifications and organizational structure at the local level. The organization chart location of Energy Managers within the local government structure should encourage cross-cutting activities. Ideally these positions should be located in the City Manager’s Office. Energy Managers are well served by being general management matter experts, not just engineers. DOE should create a survey to capture current qualifications for public sector Energy Managers to enable communities to be well served when creating or filling these types of positions. (*Source: EECBG Sub-committee Meeting 6, Ft. Worth, TX, February 1, 2012*)
- **Better Energy Efficiency Branding:** DOE should create an iconic brand¹ for energy efficiency to combat bad press surrounding the stimulus. DOE needs to do a better job of highlighting indirect jobs created. Need to expand the success

¹ For a discussion of “iconic brands,” please refer to Millward Brown’s “What Makes an Iconic Brand” (<http://www.wpp.com/wpp/marketing/reportsstudies/whatmakesaniconicbrand.htm>).

story beyond speed of deployment, jobs and dollar value spent. Community impact and ancillary societal benefits should be highlighted. (*Source: EECBG Sub-committee Meeting 5, Atlanta, GA, September 14, 2011*)

- **Continue Bi-Annual Meetings of the EECBG Sub-committee through September 30, 2013:** As grants will be continuing at least through September 30, 2013 because of Period of Performance Modifications and Revolving Loan Funds, the EECBG Sub-committee should continue to meet bi-annually to provide continued guidance and advice to EERE on management of the EECBG program. (*Source: Ad Hoc EECBG Sub-committee Recommendation*)

Unanimously adopted by the STEAB on April 19, 2012