

State Energy Advisory Board Meeting
March 17 - 19, 2009
Washington, D.C.

Attendees:

DFO:

- Gary Burch, STEAB Designated Federal Officer, Director of EE Projects Division, Golden Field Office, Denver, CO

ATTENDANCE		
MEMBERS	Present	Not Present
Chris Benson, Director, Arkansas Energy Office, Department of Economic Development (Board Chair)	✓	
Jim Arwood, Director, State Energy Office, State of Arizona	✓	
Henry 'Ted' Berglund, CEO and President, Dyplast Products		✓
Susan S. Brown, Deputy Administrator, Wisconsin Division of Energy	✓	
John H. Davies, Director, Division of Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency, Kentucky Office of Energy Policy	✓	
Roger Duncan, General Manager, Austin Energy – City of Austin		✓
Ryan Gooch, Energy Policy Director, Tennessee Economic and Community Development	✓	
Paul Gutierrez, Vice Provost for Outreach Services, Associate Dean and Director, Cooperative Extension Service, College of Agriculture and Home Economics, New Mexico State University	✓	
Duane Hauck, Director, Extension Services, North Dakota State University	✓	
Robert Hoppie, Administrator, Energy Division, Idaho Department of Water Resources	✓	
Elliott Jacobson, Director, Action Energy, Inc. (Board Secretary)	✓	
Cecelia Johnson Powell, Community Development Manager, Indiana Housing and Community Development Authority	✓	
Peter Johnston, Project Manager, Clean Energy Technologies, Burns & McDonnell	✓	
James Nolan, Weatherization Director, Department of Public, Health and Human Services	✓	
Jim Ploger, Energy Manager, Kansas Energy Office	✓	
Larry Shirley, State Energy Office Director, North Carolina Department of Administration	✓	
Janet Streff, Manager, State Energy Office, Minnesota Department of Commerce	✓	
Patricia Sobrero, Associate Vice Chancellor, Extension, Engagement, and Economic Development, North Carolina State University (Vice Chair)	✓	
David Terry, Executive Director, ASERTTI	✓	
Steve Vincent, Avista Utilities	✓	
Daniel Zaweski, Director, Energy Efficiency & Distributed Generation, Long Island Power Authority	✓	
CONTRACTOR SUPPORT		
Milana Campbell, Analyst I, SENTECH, Inc.	✓	
Carmela Carr, Facilitator, SENTECH, Inc.	✓	
PUBLIC		
No public representatives participated		✓

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March 17, 2009

WELCOMING & INTRODUCTIONS

On the meeting's first day, Chris Benson, Board Chair, began the meeting by asking all Board members to introduce themselves and explain how their State or other energy programs will intersect with the Stimulus funds.

PRESENTATIONS[†]

The Board listened to presentations on the following topics:

- Overview of the Recovery Act, Gil Sperling (GS), Program Manager, Office of Weatherization and Intergovernmental Programs (OWIP), DOE
- Department of Energy (DOE) Federal Guidance on obligating stimulus funds, Rob Sandoli (RS) and Uday Varadarajan (UV), Office of Management and Budget (OMB)
- Weatherization, Ronald Shaw (RS), Office of Weatherization and Intergovernmental Programs, DOE
- Energy Efficiency Conservation Block Grants (EECBG), Mark Bailey (MB), Office of Weatherization and Intergovernmental Programs, DOE

OWIP Discussion With Gil Sperling

Recovery Act:

- GS presentation began with suggesting the Stimulus Bill officially be referred to as the Recovery Act.
- The Recovery Act allotted \$16.8 billion for Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (EERE).
- Recovery Act alone provides \$11.6 billion for the OWIP areas.
- OWIP is now stewarding over 70% of the Recovery funds in EERE.
- Recovery Act allotment for all programs: Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP) is \$5 billion; State Energy Program (SEP) is \$3.1 billion; the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grants (EECBG) are being funded for the first time at \$2.8 billion, with another \$400 million in a competitive solicitation; and an Energy Star Appliance Rebate program that will be administered and implemented through State Energy Offices (SEO's) that have received \$300 million.
- The objectives of the Recovery Act are: create jobs, stimulate the economy, and spur economic growth.
- Accountability is a major feature of the Recovery Act; and the President has committed Congress to dictate transparency and accountability, as the American people need to know where the funds are going, how funds are spent, and what results are being produced.

[†] Copies of the presentations are available at the end of these minutes in Appendices A through D

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- OWIP will place shorter time tables on use of funds to ensure everyone's attention is on all programs and that the funds are deployed in a timely manner. Use of funds will be put on a 36-month grant agreement instead of the previous 5-year grant agreement, and it will be required that within 18 months grantees obligate or commit those funds. There will be an increase in both monitoring and oversight.

Weatherization:

- There is about \$450 M in the FY 2009 budget. The Recovery Act has added another \$5 billion.
- The weatherization funds that OWIP provides are supplemented with funds set aside by the States from the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP), as well as by State charges and assistance benefits.
- This year, because of the level of funding from Congress on weatherization and the level of funding on LIHEAP, there is a little over a billion dollars in the weatherization network.
- The Recovery Act made significant changes in the law, such as it increased weatherization eligibility from 150% of the federal poverty level to 200%, which is a substantial increase in the number of residences that are now eligible.
- The average weatherization cost per home was increased by Congress by roughly \$3055.00 to \$6500.00.
- It is imperative to aggressively manage the funds and the program as efficiently as possible and look at every aspect of the administrative costs so there's more that can be done in people's home's to get the maximum amount of energy gained per dollar spent.
- The Recovery Act significantly increased the amount to be spent on training and technical assistance (T&TA) from 10% to 20%, so up to a billion dollars of the \$5 billion can be spent on these efforts.
- OWIP has held back 3% of those funds at the headquarters level to aggressively work with States in expanding training facilities and expanding equitable assistance.
- The formula for how OWIP allocates money shifts: more money now moves toward warmer climates. The warmer States have not had the experience that some of the colder climate States have had in terms of developing their programs.
- The Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) spends roughly \$6 billion a year on HUD-managed and HUD-owned properties – i.e., public housing and assisted housing – and they have a responsibility to do energy efficiency retrofits to try to reduce the costs. OWIP plans to enter into an interagency agreement with HUD.
- The EECBG formula is inordinately complicated, as there are iterative algorithms used to determine eligibility and levels of funding. Cities with a population of 35,000 or more or that are one of the 10 most populous cities in the State will be eligible for a direct grant from DOE. Similarly, counties with 200,000 or more or that are one of the 10 most populous counties in the State will also be eligible.
- The EECBG formula will be published within the next few days, and OWIP is currently working with the Project Management Center (PMC) at the National Energy Technology Laboratory (NETL) to release a funding opportunity announcement (FOA) that will lay out the basic requirements of the program.

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Appliance Rebate Program:

- Section 124 of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 lays out the description. This program will be implemented through SEP. OWIP is looking at options surrounding which appliances would be eligible.

Technical Assistance Program (TAP):

- OWIP is trying to develop a solutions center containing a library of documents of best practices and also trying to significantly expand TAP. Similarly, OWIP is trying to incorporate using peer-to-peer exchanges, workshops, webinars, and outreach.
- OWIP is looking at ways to deliver TAP to all grantees. Under EECBG, there will be up to 1700 or more cities and counties that will directly receive funds from OWIP.
- There are approximately 562 Indian Tribes that will receive 2% of the funds directly from OWIP.
- The States have 28% of the funds to sub-grant to thousands of smaller government entities.
- One of the things being done quickly because of the expansion of the weatherization network and workforce is expanding the training centers. There are currently 10 nationwide, and OWIP is looking at adding 40 more in the near future.

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Recovery Act Discussion With Rob Sandoli and Uday Varadarajan

Distributing Recovery Act funds:

- There is a lot of pressure to ensure OMB quickly distributes the Recovery Act money to the States. A 62-page federal guidance document detailing the intricacies of the Recovery Act had been sent to all agencies; and a supplemental guidance will be published in the coming weeks, as well. The guidance was issued to keep track of the funds and ensure they are spent for their intended purposes.
- Questions: If a State sets up a revolving loan fund- if the capitalization was committed in the revolving loan fund- would that qualify or would that mean the actual loans to the individuals would have to be obligated by September of 2010? Answer: The federal guidance stipulates that the agencies have to obligate 75% of the Recovery Act funds by September of 2010. The DOE guidance also states that 75% must be spent by the end of 2010, and that is government-wide – meaning some agencies will spend more, some will spend less.

Job Creation:

- The Recovery Act challenge is job creation versus spending the money; and so if it is put in a State revolving loan fund, it takes longer to spend. State officials are questioning how to distribute the money into the businesses and get it into people's hands. Job creation is one metric and energy saved is another, and there will be situations where the activities chosen by States become a broad array as some will generate more jobs, some will save energy, and some will work more for the long term. Those issues have to be balanced while keeping all of the goals in mind.
- Green Jobs- Jobs are a new metric for DOE, and it's in the evaluation because that is the main purpose of the Recovery Act. No jobs will be added as a determinant for SEP or weatherization or EECBG, as DOE's mission in these areas is to promote energy efficiency and affordable energy. Regarding energy used per State, the intent is for eventually the private sector to take over after the economy recovers where

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it makes economic sense. As long as the program is still producing documentable energy savings, the program will sustain itself. The President has indicated an interest in creating jobs, and while it is not a goal of SEP, it still may yield dividends as that agenda is built. There are a lot of interagency collaborative efforts between DOE, DOL, and other agencies on green-jobs training, as there is a huge amount of money alone for job creation within weatherization. One of the prime drivers of the Recovery Act is job creation at the local level, and the States will be asked to track jobs. Based on the President's comments, another big issue taken on will be the environment. If that moves forward and funds are dispersed at the State and local levels, States under the Recovery Act should try to differentiate green jobs and non-green jobs, so there is a prepared metric to work with before delving into environmental issues. At this time, there is no federal guidance on green and non-green job metrics; but States should track overall jobs created.

- There are a few ways to measure the progress of the 25% goal such as per capita. The broad goal should be kept in mind when activities are selected within the requirements of each State. OMB's concern for the overall program goal in different categories within the DOE guidance is that jobs created may be one of the easier goals, but OMB may need to come up with alternatives for a different way to measure the goals. There is a push to use a measurement at the end of the program year shows energy savings, even if it is not going to be realized. OMB needs to get that data on an annual basis, and DOE is right to ask for it – but OMB has to provide the necessary tools to help the States accomplish their goals, and if those tools aren't there then OMB will make them available.
- The States are interested in paying people as well as possible; however, there are issues that could cause a severe delay in the program. There is no prevailing wage for weatherization – i.e. carpenter's get paid \$40 - \$55.00 an hour – and that could change based on the cost factor ratios. The State's do support paying people prevailing wages, as much as the prospectus will allow. The issues are what the prevailing wages are and what categories do they fit into? Prevailing wages is a Department of Labor (DOL) issue, and the timeline for DOL's determination is unknown.
- OMB is interested in receiving program evaluation and for STEAB members to convey the tools needed in the field to help report back on data per DOE's guidance as OMB has pressure on DOE to ensure field data is collected in the field and to ensure it can independently verify if programs are saving energy and achieving their intended purpose. Energy saved and jobs created are really important to OMB.

Communicating from the Field to DOE:

- A way to coalesce field issues into a few key recommendations to DOE is through a concise letter. Field representatives could write precise recommendations on key issues faced in the field that is within DOE's control to address, and DOE will respond and OMB will work with DOE to ensure those issues are being addressed. It is important to maintain dialogue with the new EERE Assistant Secretary.
- STEAB has an opportunity to work with a new program such as EECBG, as well as work with OMB and DOE on providing an evaluation tool or requirements on what kind of components the cities and counties are going to require. OMB is looking to expand the WINSaga data system and will eventually merge this into other systems. In some ways, it's easy with WINSaga as there are only fifty States, and then there are a couple of thousand direct recipients within the EECBG program. OMB wants to ensure that is what the State's are doing already. The extent to which OMB can leverage STEAB's information resources and performance measures is imperative, as the intents are similar between the SEP and EECBG.

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Recovery Act Funds

- There is no specific date on when costing must occur, but the goal is to spend 75% by the end of 2010. There are limitations on the number of years that funds can remain unspent- 5 years. DOE has a choice in stipulating that States spend the funds in under 5 years. What does that mean for the State's revolving loan fund? Partially it will depend on the State's decision regarding the costing. There is a federal precedent for not having the loan costing for a long period of time or having the term of the loan being a factor. DOE's guidance is that the limit will be 3 years instead of 5 years to obligate the funds. The FY 2010 budget development process: The president dispersed the top line budget and the top line is set for each of the agencies – there is a 10-year limit on spending. The allocations within those agencies top lines are still under discussion. The details of the budget will be dispersed in early May 2009. In terms of the consideration of the Recovery Act funds into the development of the FY 2010 budget process, discussions are ongoing and a lot depends on assumptions from the outlays of the Recovery Act.

STEAB Dialogue

Creation of a Subcommittee:

- OWIP has proposed and General Counsel has accepted that a statutory requirement exists to establish an “advisory committee” in support of EECBG. OWIP suggested that this new committee might be set up as a subcommittee to STEAB. The make- up of that subcommittee would come from a smaller group of STEAB members, along with a larger group from outside STEAB; but the subcommittee would report back through STEAB. The expectation is that STEAB will draw upon the city and local government aspects of STEAB to suggest names to fill the subcommittee. The size has not been defined and the charter is in transition. The purpose of the subcommittee purpose and expectations are still undefined. It is anticipated the subcommittee would be an independent, overseeing authority of the EECBG, and would provide guidance and clarity on appropriate oversight for use of the EECBG funds. The Board subcommittee can be a conduit from the States to EERE on the subject of EECBG oversight. The idea of the subcommittee is derived from Subtitle E of the Energy Independence Security Act (EISA), Section 543 (f): "State and Local Advisory Committee - The Secretary shall establish a State and local advisory committee to advise the Secretary regarding administration, implementation, and evaluation of the program."
- The STEAB suggested that subcommittee stipulations would be:
 - STEAB to chair
 - STEAB to select committee members
 - 3-year terms
 - Contingent on funding and GC concurrence
- The subcommittee would be comprised of:
 - 18 members:
 - 2 STEAB
 - 5 City
 - 5 Counties
 - 3 States
 - 3 Native American Tribal Representatives

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Strategic Communications:

- Strategic Communications: STEAB has concluded that communication strategies are essential to provide clear, timely and appropriate information to State and local governments receiving Recovery funds. The following points are presented for further development and may be included in comments or recommendations to EERE from the Board:
 - Short-term strategy vs. long-term strategy:
 - EERE needs to move quickly to provide information and resources to grant recipients in order to fill immediate needs.
 - Longer term approaches are important to achieve economic and energy goals, i.e., training, economic development, environmental concerns, etc.
 - Use of 21st Century technology solutions for 21st Century problems:
 - The use of internet platforms for presentation of video and interactive formats elevates the dialogue between and among DOE, States, and local governments.
 - STEAB should recommend that DOE re-establish a regional presence in an effort to maintain credibility and improve communication channels with Recovery fund recipients.
- Regional approaches enable effective and efficient communications, and allocation of resources.

OWIP Providing A Regional Presence:

- OWIP
 - Propose a DOE field representative in each State to oversee.
 - Initially the role would have to be defined.
 - There would have to be a way to determine if field communications are improved.
 - Could model the representative after the Housing and Urban Development (HUD) model.
 - Help with problem solving and run interference.
 - Assist with coordination of Block Grants (BG), Weatherization, and SEP.
 - There is a possibility the person could be housed with a HUD field representative.
- Recommendation / considerations to re-establish a regional presence:
 - Contract authority
 - 5 Regions – Regional Admin
 - 25% time – Federal Issues
 - DOE Regional Offices – 6 (2006)
 - Communication function
 - Fund position through State Energy Offices (SEO's)
 - Circuit rider approach
 - Run out of Project Management Center (PMC)
- STEAB's recommendations:
 - Re-establish a regional presence
 - At and through PMC
 - Circuit riders – more productive
 - To deal with local, State, and Federal issues
 - HUD, US Department of Agriculture (USDA), Health and Human Services (HHS), Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), DOL – bridging multi agency barriers.
 - Make part of the communications plan.

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- It is the sense of STEAB that there is the need for the creation of an information dissemination network regarding issues dealing with the EECBG, as well as parts of the Recovery Act. It is the recommendation that the network should be led by the National Association of State Energy Officials (NASEO) and involve National Association of Counties (NACO), League of Cities and Towns, Cooperative Extension, Edison Electric, and US Conference of Mayors. The information network would be responsible for the development of materials that assist local entities in participating in the EECBG and developing implementation strategies. The network should use 21st Century technology delivery mechanisms, which include but are not limited to electronic newsletters, webinars, conference calls, and video. DOE should provide support to the Network in the development of materials and delivery mechanisms.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 12:00 PM on Thursday, March 19, 2009.

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ACTION ITEMS arising from the March 2009 STEAB meeting are highlighted below:

In the coming weeks / months, the Board has several action items on the agenda with associated timeframes to ensure their effectiveness. The Board is currently considering a November 2009 meeting at North Carolina State University. In addition, the Board is also considering several potential actions based on topics discussed during this meeting, with the intention of re-visiting them for further discussion during the April 15, 2009, conference call.

Actions	Responsible Party	Due Date	Status
Upload meeting minutes and presentations to STEAB website	SENTECH, Inc.	ASAP	In progress.
Next Meeting: June 23 - 25, Washington, D.C.	DFO/SENTECH, Inc.	ASAP	Participants confirmed; agenda in transition.
Draft and send formal "Thank You" letters to all speakers	SENTECH, Inc.	ASAP	Done.
Send Transmittal letter and Resolution 09-04 to Steven Chalk	SENTECH, Inc.	ASAP	Done.
DOE Recovery Act Guidance for States	OMB	September 2010	Federal guidance stipulates agencies have to obligate 75% of funds by end of 2010.
25% federal baseline goal; balancing job creation and saving energy	States	September 2010	States have to balance the Statutory goal of saving energy and creating jobs; must reach a 25% federal goal.
DOE receiving data on SEP	OMB and States	End of program year 2012	DOE provides States with tools to model expected State benefit. States can use Oak Ridge study as benchmark. DOE needs to get data on annual basis.
Guidance on prevailing wages for weatherization	DOE and Department of Labor	Timeline unknown	States have discovered job categories and need guidance on prevailing wages; States can contact local labor departments.
Program evaluation	DOE and States	Timeline unknown	States need to report data back to DOE regarding results of end users using Recovery Act funds.

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STEAB communicate recommendations to DOE	STEAB	Timeline unknown	Individual State concerns can be coalesced into precise recommendations to DOE on key issues faced in the field.
Evaluating SEP	OMB	Timeline unknown	Program must produce documentable energy savings; trying to get agencies together to see how they can leverage funds.
Differentiating jobs and green jobs	OMB	Timeline unknown	Currently relying on agencies to track overall jobs. In the process of creating guidance to get definitions in order.
Obligation of Recovery Act funding	DOE	September 30, 2010	10% allocation awarded to grantees at time of award; when State plan is submitted to DOE and approved, DOE will give states 40% more. Remaining money awarded based on performance.
3 points in governor's assurance letter	States	Must achieve code compliance within 8 years	1. The governor must notify DOE that the State has obtained the necessary assurances. 2. The State must adopt building codes and insurance compliance with those codes. 3. The State must privatize and expand existing energy efficiency programs for existing programs and industrial facilities.
State submission of signed governor's letter or governor signed certification sheet	States to OWIP	By the time award is granted or within 60 days of award grant period	Have to have letter by the time award is granted. If no letter is signed within 60-day period, a grant cannot be awarded because money may have to be returned to Department of Treasury.
Proposed Charter for new Subcommittee	OWIP	TBD	Will work with STEAB; targeted at EECBG. Will have locals represented on committee.

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Formal Motions Adopted During the Meeting:

STEAB Subcommittee

- *STEAB moved to support the successful implementation of a subcommittee to independently authorize and oversee the use of the Recovery Act funds.*

Paul Gutierrez: Motion

Steve Vincent: Seconded

Motion passed on Wednesday, March 18, 2009

Recovery Act

- *STEAB moved to actively support the successful implementation of the Recovery Act by working with DOE, other public and private entities, and STEAB's State and Local constituent bases.*

Elliot Jacobson: Motion

Cecelia Johnson- Powell: Seconded

Motion passed on Thursday, March 19, 2009

Formal Resolution Adopted During the Meeting:

- Resolution 09-04: Establishment of a strategic, coordinated regional staffing presence to facilitate two-way communication and to provide technical assistance to State and local governments.

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United States Department of Energy
State Energy Advisory Board (STEAB)

Resolution 09-04

Subject: Establishment of a strategic, coordinated regional staffing presence to facilitate two-way communication and to provide technical assistance to State and local governments.

Background: In 2006, DOE consolidated its six regional offices into the two Program Management Centers (PMCs) in Pittsburgh, PA, and Golden, CO. States currently rely on the PMCs for guidance and technical assistance related to the State Energy Program (SEP) and the Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP). Additionally, the PMCs will be responsible for providing guidance and technical assistance to States and approximately 1,700 local governments for the new Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grants (EECBG).

Issue: States and local governments must have clear and effective communication pathways to Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (EERE) information to enable the successful delivery of Recovery Act programs, specifically SEP, WAP, and EECBG. Many States also have an increased need for technical assistance and guidance associated with the non-recovery funding levels of SEP and WAP. Furthermore, DOE must find a way to adequately support State and local governments with issues that arise in the administration of the block grants. It is unlikely that DOE will be able to meet these needs from the isolation of the PMCs. There is a direct need for EERE to re-establish a strategic and coordinated regional staffing presence to meet the needs of State and local governments. The existing fundamental disconnect between the States, DOE, and the PMCs requires communication not only on the procedures and procurement rules, but also on the substance of program delivery.

Recommendation: The State Energy Advisory Board (STEAB) recommends that EERE take the necessary steps to re-establish a multi-State/regional area staffing presence, managed by the PMCs, to focus on outreach issues and to provide direct support to State and local stakeholders in the delivery of SEP, WAP and EECBG. Regional staff will need to maintain an active and physical presence in their assigned States on a regular basis to achieve effective implementation of the Recovery Act. These PMC regional staff/circuit riders should be established to ensure that information provided to State and local stakeholders is accurate and timely. This effort should be closely coordinated with the regional efforts that are being initiated by the State and local organizations that directly represent these governments and other direct providers (e.g., NASEO, NASCSP, ICLEI, NACO, U.S. Conference of Mayors, NCAF, League of Cities, Native American Tribal Representatives, etc). Additionally, these staff should help State and local stakeholders align their energy-related programs with those provided by other federal agencies (e.g., HUD, HHS, USDA, DOL, FDA, and EPA).

Unanimously adopted by STEAB on Thursday, March 19, 2009

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STEAB APPENDICES

March 2009

The following list reflects the handouts and presentations that were presented at the STEAB meeting in Washington, DC, in March of 2009.

A	STEAB	Gil Sperling
B	Weatherization: Ramping up to the Recovery Act of 2009	Ron Shaw
C	Efficient Energy Use and Conservation	Duane Hauck
D	Communications Strategies	Janet Streff

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Appendix A



STEAB

Gil Sperling
Program Manager

Weatherization and Intergovernmental Program



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U.S. Department of Energy
Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy
Bringing you a prosperous future where energy is clean, abundant, reliable, and affordable

Overview

- Recovery Act Investment
- Objectives
- Accountability
- Programs
- Next Steps

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Recovery Act Funding Overview

- EERE - \$16.8 billion
 - 10 Fold Increase in Budget
- Weatherization & Intergovernmental \$ 11.6 B
 - Steward of 70% of EERE Recovery Act Funds
 - Significant investment in State and Local Govt's
 - Weatherization Assistance \$ 5.0 B
 - State Energy Program \$ 3.1 B
 - EE Conservation Block Grant \$ 2.8 B
 - Grant Competitive Solicitation \$ 400 M
 - Appliance Rebate Program \$ 300 M

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U.S. Department of Energy
Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy
Bringing you a prosperous future where energy is clean, abundant, reliable, and affordable

Objectives

Recovery Act Objectives

- Spur economic growth and create jobs
- Save energy and reduce greenhouse gas emissions
- Transparency & accountability

WIP Objectives

- Invest funds for economic stimulus effect now **and** to meet long-term energy goals
- Create comprehensive energy strategies that benchmark current performance and set goals
- Develop programs and projects that will persist beyond grant period
- Leverage funds with public and private sources
- Coordinate at regional levels

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U.S. Department of Energy
Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy
Bringing you a prosperous future where energy is clean, abundant, reliable, and affordable.

Accountability

- Top Priority
- Risk Mitigation
 - Release of funds based on DOE milestones
 - Project monitoring
 - Certification and Training
- Monitoring and Evaluation

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U.S. Department of Energy
Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy
Bringing you a prosperous future where energy is clean, abundant, reliable, and affordable

Weatherization Assistance - \$ 5 B

- **Presidential Initiative**
- **Recovery Act Changes to Program**
 - Income level amended from 150 percent of poverty to 200 percent
 - Cost per home was raised from \$2,500 to \$6,500
 - T&TA raised from 10 percent to up to 20 percent
- **New Opportunities**
 - DOE/HUD Agreement
 - WX Pilot Program
- **Investment**
 - Network has approximately 8,000 people employed directly by the program, with the expectation that number may increase to somewhere between 80K and 100K to help meet the President's call to weatherize 1M homes per year.

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State Energy Program - \$3.1 B

- **Energy Offices Well Positioned**
 - Meet States' own energy needs, contribute to National goals, and reach every sector in their States' economy.
- **States Target Achievement of EPACT 05 Goals**
 - 25% reduction in per capita energy consumption by 2012 (1990 baseline)
 - renewable energy technology, transportation measures, industrial retrofits, Revolving loans, on-bill financing strategies, and performance contracting are strongly encouraged.
- **Section 410 Requirement**
 - Governor Assurances - Regulatory & Codes
- **Investment Outcomes**
 - Recovery Act funds save government, businesses and consumers \$24.5 billion and 3,800 trillion BTUs (ORNL peer reviewed methodology 2005)

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EE Block Grant - \$3.2 B

- Presidential priority - *deploy the cheapest, cleanest, fastest energy source – energy efficiency*
- Primarily for Energy Efficiency and Energy Conservation
- Competitive Grants (\$456 M)
 - promote market transformation, innovation, and leveraging High Impact Eligible Activities
 - Performance contracting, on-bill financing, revolving loans, loan guarantees, and other financial incentives and mechanisms
- Investment Outcome
 - Lays foundation for low carbon economy
 - Leverage

• Add EEBCG advisory subcommittee

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Appliance Rebate Program - \$300 M

- Will potentially establish rebate programs in 50 states
 - *Note: will depend on which states apply for the money*
- Increase consumer awareness of energy efficient choices to improve their lives and wallets
- Investment Outcomes
 - Spur sales of energy efficient appliances
 - Significantly reduce energy and water use by American households

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Next Steps

- Issue Guidance: EE Block Grant & Rebate Programs
- Issue Grants
- Expand DOE Resources
 - Develop a Solution Center – library of documents
 - Expand technical assistance – TAP & peer-to-peer exchanges
 - Work with Weatherization Trainers Consortium – develop a national training plan and standardized training curriculum to facilitate training new hires.

What can STEAB do

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Thank You

Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (EERE)
Weatherization and Intergovernmental Programs Website
<http://www.eere.energy.gov/wip>

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State Energy Advisory Board Meeting
March 17 - 19, 2009
Washington, D.C.

Appendix B

weatherization and intergovernmental program

**Weatherization: Ramping Up to
The American Recovery and
Reinvestment Act
(Recovery Act) of 2009**

STEAB Meeting
Washington, D.C.
March 17, 2009

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“The Recovery Act will increase the DOE portion of funding for local Weatherization efforts by more than twenty times over a two year period based on FY 2008 funding levels.”

- Weatherization Program Notice 09-1B

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- What parts of the Program have been amended to accommodate the ARRA?
- How will the funds be obligated?
- How will the network provide the necessary training and technical assistance?
- How will issues of increased monitoring and oversight be addressed?

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Program Amendments

Income Level

- The Recovery Act raises the eligibility criterion for DOE Weatherization from 150 percent of poverty to 200 percent of poverty.
- Grantees have the option of using DOE's criteria of 200% or LIHEAP's criteria of 60% of median income to determine eligibility.
- In many States, 60% of median income is still higher than 200% of poverty.

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Program Amendments

Assistance Level per Dwelling Unit

- The average expenditure limit per home has been increased from \$2,500 to \$6,500 to allow more measures to be installed and to achieve greater energy savings.

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Program Amendments

Effective Use of Funds

- In providing Recovery Act funds to the Program, the Secretary may give priority to using such funds for the most cost-effective efficiency activities (e.g., insulation in attics).
 - Purpose of this language or how this will affect the Program is unclear.

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Program Amendments

Training and Technical Assistance

- 10 percent, the former allowable percentage to be used for T&TA was replaced with up to 20 percent allowance.
- To effectively address the network's needs, DOE will retain 3 percent of the T&TA for national training and technical assistance initiatives and transmit 17 percent to the Grantees.

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Program Amendments

Assistance for Re-Weatherization

- The Recovery Act changes the eligibility criterion for re-weatherization from homes completed before September 30, 1979 to homes completed before September 30, 1994.
 - Note: In regulations, the date had been changed to September 30, 1993 and agencies were already operating under the regulatory date change.
 - This change moves the date by one year, only.

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Concurrent Actions

Adding the Territories

- On March 12, 2009, DOE issued a final rule adding Puerto Rico and the territories to the definition of "State" for the Purpose of the Weatherization Assistance Program.
- These new Grantees include:
 - American Samoa
 - Guam
 - Northern Mariana Islands
 - Puerto Rico
 - U.S. Virgin Islands

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Obligation of AARA Funding

DOE intends to obligate Recovery Act funds based on the following milestones:

- 10% of total allocation at time of initial award
- 40% of total allocation upon DOE approval of the State Plan (due within 60 days after FOA issuance)
- 50% of funds made available for activities that can be initiated no later than June 17, 2009 (with preference being given to activities that can be started and completed expeditiously)
- Congress and the Department aim to have all Recovery Act funds obligated by September 30, 2010

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Grantee Program Oversight

Program Monitoring

- The Grantee must conduct comprehensive monitoring of each subgrantee at least once a year.
- The comprehensive monitoring must include:
 - Review of client files and subgrantee records.
 - Inspection of **at least 5 percent** of the completed units or units in the process of being weatherized.

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Grantee Program Oversight

Running Concurrent Grants

- Recovery Act funds can be used in conjunction with other funding sources as necessary to complete projects, but tracking and reporting must be separate to meet the reporting requirements of the Recovery Act and OMB guidance.

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Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy

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Grantee Program Oversight

Additional Reporting Requirements

- For the purposes of meeting the intent of the Recovery Act, reporting requirements will be revised, including:
 - Reporting on a monthly, rather than quarterly basis.
 - Reporting on additional categories including:
 - > Jobs created and retained at the Grantee agency or by contractors to the Grantee.
 - > Jobs created and retained at the local agency or by contractors to the local agency.
 - > Number of monitoring visits (desk and on-site) conducted by the Grantee.
 - > Hours of training at the Grantee and local agencies.
 - > Equipment purchased over the \$5,000 threshold.

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Grantee Program Oversight

Website Information

- For the purposes of transparency and accountability, the Recovery Act created www.recovery.gov to track how and where tax dollars are being spent.
- Grantees are required to provide information, such as financial and progress reports, regarding the expenditure of Recovery Act funds through this website.
- DOE will prepare "progress reports" to ensure compliance with all Recovery Act requirements.

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Challenges

- Prevailing Wage impacts (compliance, reporting, monitoring).
- Procurement process – getting the money "on the street."

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Opportunities

"This is an extraordinary challenge put before an extraordinary network."

- Gil Sperling, WPN 09-1B

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Appendix C

Efficient Energy Use and Conservation

What can Cooperative Extension do best?*

General Activities

- Train contractors and energy/green workers for employment in building energy efficiency efforts
- Educate volunteers to educate others in energy efficiency and conservation measures (train-the-trainer)
- Educate and provide technical assistance to multiple publics (youth and adults) in energy efficiency for individuals, homes, and businesses
- Educate individuals and encourage the use of tax incentives for purchase and use of energy efficient appliances, transportation, and home remodeling expenses
- Support community (especially smaller units of government including counties, cities, schools, etc.) learning and actions to effectively utilize state and federal energy program funding
- Design and carry out energy efficiency program impact evaluations
- Facilitate community issue exploration and decision-making processes

Expected Outcomes

- Reduced use of energy in homes and businesses
- Increased number of trained energy/green workers
- Increased number of participants in energy efficiency incentives programs
- Increased number of volunteers to train home and business in energy efficiency
- Increase understanding by community leaders about how to participate in energy efficiency programs
- Increased number of homes and businesses that utilized renewable energy technology
- Increased consumer awareness of energy issues when making large and small purchases

Options for Cooperative Extension to Receive National Energy Efficiency Funding (DOE)

1. Fund individual land-grant universities through national and state programs
2. Fund regional coalitions of land-grant universities in regional centers or other similar organizations through national and state programs
3. Partner with USDA/CSREES to set competitive programs aimed at individual land-grant universities or regional coalitions of universities
4. Create new or leverage existing 501c3 organizations to manage and distribute funding (e.g., eXtension)

- * *This document contains a draft list of activities in which the Cooperative Extension System could provide educational assistance. While Cooperative Extension exists in every state and territory of the country and has a presence in almost every county, the level of 'energy' expertise varies greatly. Utilization of the Cooperative Extension Systems' network of educators at the land-grant universities and distributed throughout the local environment is a primary element on any strategy for engaging individuals, businesses and communities in energy efficiency and conservation education.*

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Appendix D

Communication strategies are essential to providing clear, timely and appropriate information to state and local governments receiving Recovery funds.

Short Term Strategies

- To provide initial information when the EECBG rolls out, create an ad hoc information network made up of State Energy Offices, supported by NASEO and the US Conference of Mayors.
 - –SEOs, using the experience of many EERE grant cycles, can provide notice of FOA to large cities and counties in their respective states
 - –As time permits, SEOs can provide assistance/guidance on application procedures and tools such as FedConnect
 - –SEOs may use additional platforms such as webinars, to bring together multiple stakeholders in state to avoid duplication of efforts

Long Term Strategies

- Longer term approaches are important to achieve economic and energy goals, i.e. training, economic development, environmental, etc.
 - –Developing implementation strategies and accompanying materials that assist local entities in their initial participation in EECBG
 - Important for US DOE to involve states, educational institutions as possible national certifications are planned for EERE career paths
- Use 21st century technology solutions for 21st century problems
 - –The use of internet platforms for presentation of video and interactive formats elevates the dialogue between and among DOE, states, and local governments.
 - 21st technology delivery mechanisms which include but are not limited to electronic newsletters, webinars, conference calls, FB and video.