

## Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grants

New program by Department of Energy (DOE) to reduce energy consumption and assist states, counties and local communities in implementing strategies, modeled after Community Development Block Grant program. <http://www.eecbg.energy.gov/#lc1>

### FUNDING DISTRIBUTION

\$3.2 billion appropriated for program.

- \$2.7 billion will be distributed through grants (\$1.9 billion to cities and counties / \$770 million to states / \$54 million to Indian tribes)
- Of the \$770 million to states, at least 60 percent must be passed on to places within the state that are ineligible for direct funding from the DOE (communities with population less than 35,000)
- \$455 million to be distributed separately for competitive grants. Program eligibility guidelines and date to apply still TBD.

**ELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES** (\***bold** denotes possible historic preservation opportunities)

- **Development of an Energy Efficiency and Conservation Strategy and Technical Consultant Services to assist in the development of such a strategy.**
- **Residential and Commercial Building Energy Audits.**
- Financial Incentive Programs and Mechanisms for energy efficiency improvements such as energy savings performance contracting, on-bill financing, and revolving loan funds.
- **Grants to nonprofit organizations and governmental agencies for the purpose of performing Energy Efficiency Retrofits.**
- **Energy Efficiency and Conservation Programs for Buildings and Facilities.**
- Development and Implementation of Transportation Programs to conserve energy.
- **Building Codes and Inspections to promote building energy efficiency.**
- Energy Distribution Technologies that significantly increase energy efficiency, including distributed resources, combined heat and power, and district heating and cooling systems.
- Material Conservation Programs including source reduction, recycling, and recycled content procurement programs that lead to increases in energy efficiency.
- Reduction and Capture of Methane and Greenhouse Gases generated by landfills or similar waste-related sources.
- Energy efficient Traffic Signals and Street Lighting.
- **Renewable Energy Technologies on Government Buildings.**
- Any Other Appropriate Activity that meets the purposes of the program and is approved by DOE.

### DOE GOALS FOR PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS

- Leverage other public and private resources.
- Enhance workforce development.
- Persist beyond the funding period.
- Promote energy market transformation such as revolving loans, low-cost loans, energy savings performance contracting, advanced building codes, building and home retrofit incentives and policies, and transportation programs and policies.

### DEADLINES TO APPLY

- May 26, 2009 for states
- June 25, 2009 for eligible cities, counties and Indian tribes