



## Environment and Energy Related Programs

### American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009

A summary of programs  
expected to bring funds to New Hampshire



Funds shown are one - time only funds unless fiscal year allocations are indicated

Page references to ARRA are to the PDF version of the law posted at the New Hampshire Recovery web site: <http://www.nh.gov/recovery/>

Questions, project proposals, and suggestions can be submitted to the Office of Economic Stimulus by going to <http://www.nh.gov/recovery/> and selecting the “Submit a recommendation” button.

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Program Title:        **Brownfields**

Short Description:    Revolving Loan Fund to assist with cleanup of polluted sites.

ARRA Appropriation nationwide:    \$100,000,000

Estimated New Hampshire Funds:        \$1,800,000

Granting Agency:    U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Managing Agency:    N.H. Department of Environmental Services

Status:                Most of these funds will be provided to applicants directly from EPA grants from a regional pool of applications that were not funded last federal fiscal year.

Award Criteria:        EPA is expected to give priority to those projects that have not been funded from the previous year.

Time Line for use:    Funds expected to be disbursed within 12 months.

Details:                ARRA - page 56

Funding likely to be supplemental funding of NH Brownfields Cleanup Revolving Loan Fund (BCRLF) to be used for cleanup loans and sub-grants.

- NHDES award criteria for sub-grants:
  - Applicant must be a municipality, quasi-governmental agency, or non-profit;
  - Applicant must own the property before April 30, 2009;
  - Applicant cannot be a potentially responsible party;
  - Applicant must have an ASTM E1527-05 Site Assessment completed at time of application; and
  - Project must have high likelihood of completion within 24 months

*New Hampshire Implementation -American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009*

Program Title:           **Leaking Underground Storage Tank Fund**

Short Description:     Clean up of leaking underground storage tanks

ARRA Appropriation nationwide:     \$200,000,000

Estimated New Hampshire Funds:     \$1,800,000

Granting Agency:     US Environmental Protection Agency

Managing Agency:    N.H. Department of Environmental Services

Status:                N.H. Application has been submitted to the EPA

Award Criteria:        Work will be done by DES contractors.

Time Line for use:    Funds to be under contract or construction started within 12 months.

Details:                ARRA - page 55

- NH DES Leaking Underground Storage Fund website:
  - <http://des.nh.gov/organization/divisions/waste/orcb/ocs/ustp/index.htm>

Program Title: **Clean Water State Revolving Loan Fund**

Short Description: Loan (grant) funds for municipalities' wastewater/clean water projects

ARRA Appropriation nationwide: \$4,000,000,000

Estimated New Hampshire Funds: \$39,100,000

Granting Agency: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Managing Agency: N.H. Department of Environmental Services

Status: Application to EPA will be submitted in March. DES must finalize an Intended Use Plan and hold a public hearing before EPA will make grant award. Most likely grant will be provided in April, 2009.

Award Criteria: DES is developing a priority system to evaluate pre-applications submitted on February 27 for award to municipalities.

Time Line for use: From DES to municipalities: 3 or 4 months (maximum). Municipalities will have a maximum of 12 months to have contracts signed with contractors and work underway.

Details: ARRA – page 55.

- NH DES stimulus website  
<http://des.nh.gov/recovery/index.htm>

“Each state shall use not less than 50 percent of the amount of its capitalization grants to provide additional subsidization to eligible recipients in the form of forgiveness of principal, negative interest loans or grants or any combination of these. To the extent there are sufficient eligible project applications, not less than 20 percent of the funds appropriated herein for the Revolving Funds shall be for projects to address green infrastructure, water or energy efficiency improvements or other environmentally innovative activities.” ARRA, at 55.

*New Hampshire Implementation -American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009*

Program Title:           **Safe Drinking Water Act**

Short Description:     Loan (grant) funds for municipal drinking water projects.

ARRA Appropriation nationwide:   \$2,000,000,000

Estimated New Hampshire Funds:     \$19,500,000

Granting Agency:     U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Managing Agency:    N.H. Department of Environmental Services

Status:                 Application will be submitted in March. DES must finalize an Intended Use Plan and hold a public hearing before EPA will make grant award. Most likely grant will be provided to DES in April, 2009.

Award Criteria:        Not yet announced.

Time Line for use:    Preference to activities that can be started and completed expeditiously, including a goal of using at least 50 percent of the funds for activities that can be initiated not later than 120 days after the date of the enactment of this Act. Recipients shall also use grant funds in a manner that maximizes job creation and economic benefit. ARRA, Sec 1602

Details:                ARRA - page 55.

DES is developing a priority system to evaluate pre-applications submitted on February 27 for award to municipalities.

<http://des.nh.gov/recovery/index.htm>

“Each state shall use not less than 50 percent of the amount of its capitalization grants to provide additional subsidization to eligible recipients in the form of forgiveness of principal, negative interest loans or grants or any combination of these. To the extent there are sufficient eligible project applications, not less than 20 percent of the funds appropriated herein for the Revolving Funds shall be for projects to address green infrastructure, water or energy efficiency improvements or other environmentally innovative activities.” ARRA, at 55.

*New Hampshire Implementation -American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009*

Program Title:           **Diesel Emission Reduction Act**

Short Description:     Grants to retrofit diesel equipment to reduce pollution.

ARRA Appropriation nationwide:     \$300,000,000

Estimated New Hampshire Funds:     \$1,800,000

Granting Agency:     U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Managing Agency:    N.H. Department of Environmental Services

Status:                 Application development is in process.

Award Criteria:        DES will receive applications for projects for retrofits of diesel equipment in 2009 and will issue grants to applicants based on the environmental benefit.

Time Line for use:    Funds to be disbursed within 12 months.

Details:                ARRA - page 56.

DES weblink:

[http://des.nh.gov/recovery/dera\\_funding.htm](http://des.nh.gov/recovery/dera_funding.htm)

- DES released a project proposal solicitation under the Diesel Emission Reduction Act on March 5, 2009.
- DES to submit program plan to EPA by March 20, 2009.

Program Title:           **Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grants**

Short Description:    Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grants will go directly to larger cities and to counties; the State will receive funds under this program to sub-grant funds for energy efficiency and conservation projects to other municipalities

ARRA Appropriation nationwide:    \$784,000,000

Estimated New Hampshire Funds:    \$10,000,000

Granting Agency:       U.S. Department of Energy

Managing Agency:    Office of Energy and Planning (“OEP”)

Status:                    Awaiting grant guidance from U.S. Department of Energy.

Award Criteria:         Projects shall be for energy efficiency, renewable energy and carbon reduction; program design and process now being developed by OEP. New Hampshire must make certain energy related assurances to qualify for these funds.

Time Line for use:     OEP must modify state energy plan to include revised goals on energy efficiency no later than 120 days after enactment – approximately June 12, 2009. Secretary of DOE has up to 120 days to approve; grants then provided to states; states then have 180 days to distribute to municipalities.

Details:                   ARRA - page 24.

- U.S. Department of Energy stimulus website:  
<http://www.energy.gov/recovery/index.htm>



Program Title:           **State Energy Program**

Short Description:     For commercial, residential and government energy programs.

ARRA Appropriation nationwide:   \$3,100,000,000

Estimated New Hampshire Funds:     \$25,827,000

Granting Agency:       U.S. Department of Energy

Managing Agency:     Office of Energy and Planning (“OEP”)

Status:                   Awaiting grant guidance from U.S. Department of Energy

Award Criteria:         Use of funds must be outlined in amended state plan; could include grants, loans, transfers to state agencies and authorities. New Hampshire must make certain energy related assurances to qualify for these funds.

Time Line for use:     Awaiting federal guidance

Details:                 ARRA - page 24.

The Office of Energy and Planning manages the State Energy Program (SEP). Under the ARRA, they believe that this program will receive approximately \$28.7 million in funding. Presently, OEP has some discretion on how SEP funds are distributed; however, the guidance from the Department of Energy for these additional funds has not yet been released. The guidance should be available in the next few weeks. New guidelines are likely to be similar to the mandatory requirements in the 2008 guidance. They are as follows:

- Establish mandatory lighting and efficiency standards for public buildings;
  - Promote carpools, vanpools, and public transportation;
  - Incorporate energy efficiency criteria into procurement procedures;
  - Implement mandatory thermal efficiency standards for new and renovated buildings;
  - Permit right turns at red lights and left turns from one-way street onto a one-way street at a red light after stopping; and
  - Ensure effective coordination among various local, State, and Federal energy efficiency, renewable energy and alternative transportation fuel programs within the state.
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- These are the only mandatory activities, with additional tasks left up to the discretion of the State Energy Office. The Department of Energy suggests different programs for inclusion into the State Plans.

Once the grant guidance has been issued from the Department of Energy, OEP will have a clearer understanding of the range of discretionary activities allowed with SEP stimulus funds.

All information is the best available as of 3/23/09 and is subject to change. Estimated funds may change significantly as federal agencies finalize allocations and/or competitive grants are awarded.

*New Hampshire Implementation -American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009*

Program Title:           **Weatherization**

Short Description:       Weatherization funds for energy efficiency measures in low income households

ARRA Appropriation nationwide:   \$5,000,000,000

Estimated New Hampshire Funds:     \$23,218,594

Granting Agency:       U.S. Department of Energy

Managing Agency:     Office of Energy and Planning (“OEP”)

Status:                   Anticipate receipt of funds by April 1, 2009.

Award Criteria:         Existing weatherization provisions, with increase in eligibility to 200% of federal poverty guidelines (formerly 150%), and the maximum assistance per dwelling unit is increased from \$2,500 to \$6,500. ARRA, page 31-32.

New Hampshire must make certain energy related assurances to qualify for these funds.

Time Line for use:     Awaiting federal guidance

Details:                 ARRA - page 24.

- Office of Energy and Planning Web Site:  
<http://www.nh.gov/oep/>

OEP is working with CAP agencies and others to increase capacity of CAPS (recruitment, training & equipment) to meet higher production goals.

**Program Title: Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grants for 10 Largest Cities and Counties**

Short Description: Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grants to be provided directly to the State's largest ten cities and counties.

ARRA Appropriation nationwide: \$1,904,000,000

Estimated New Hampshire Funds: Unknown – allocation to cities and counties not yet announced.

Granting Agency: U.S. Department of Energy

Managing Agency: Cities and Counties receiving funds.

Status: Awaiting Federal Department of Energy allocation.

Award Criteria: The percentage allocated varies with the size of the cities and counties that qualify for an allocation.

Time Line for use: Preference to activities that can be started and completed expeditiously, including a goal of using at least 50 percent of the funds for activities that can be initiated not later than 120 days after the date of the enactment of this Act. Recipients shall also use grant funds in a manner that maximizes job creation and economic benefit. ARRA, Sec 1602.

Details: ARRA - page 24.

- General news release on DOE and ARRA
  - <http://www.energy.gov/news2009/6934.htm>
- General website on EECBG; no ARRA data as of February 25, 2009
  - [http://apps1.eere.energy.gov/wip/block\\_grants.cfm](http://apps1.eere.energy.gov/wip/block_grants.cfm)

Program Title: **Rural Utilities Service – Water and Waste Disposal Program**

Short Description: Direct loans and grants for rural water, waste water, and waste disposal programs

ARRA Appropriation nationwide: \$1,380,000,000

Estimated New Hampshire Funds: Unknown – competitive application process

Granting Agency: U.S. Department of Agriculture

Managing Agency: U.S. Department of Agriculture

Status: Municipalities may pursue assistance from USDA now.

Award Criteria: See federal program information.

Time Line for use: Preference to activities that can be started and completed expeditiously, including a goal of using at least 50 percent of the funds for activities that can be initiated not later than 120 days after the date of the enactment of this Act. Recipients shall also use grant funds in a manner that maximizes job creation and economic benefit. ARRA, Sec 1602.

Details: ARRA - page 4.

- New Hampshire and Vermont Rural Business and Cooperative Programs website <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/vt/vtbuscoop.htm>

Program Title:           **Emergency Watershed Protection Program**

Short Description:       To restore frequently flooded land on working agricultural or forest lands and associated floodplains to their natural state and create jobs.

ARRA Appropriation nationwide:   \$145,000,000

Estimated New Hampshire Funds:   Unknown application process

Granting Agency:       U.S. Department of Agriculture

Managing Agency:     Natural Resources Conservation Service

Status:                 Landowners may sign up for easements from March 9, 2009 – March 27, 2009.

Award Criteria:         See federal program information.

Time Line for use:     Goal is to have all floodplain easements acquired by December 2009 and floodplains restored by December 2010.

Details:                ARRA - page 3.

- NRCS/USDA Service Center:  
<http://www.nh.nrcs.usda.gov/>
- EWP Program floodplain:  
<http://www/nrcs.usda.gov/programs/ewp/Floodplain/index.html>