

Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant Plan

Last updated June 9, 2009

Wyoming will receive an allocation of \$12,019,800 with the ten largest cities and ten largest counties, as adjusted, qualifying for direct allocations totaling \$2,426,300. The balance of \$9,593,500 will be administered by the State Energy Office (SEO). Although the top ten cities and counties have a direct allocation they will need to prepare a plan and apply directly to DOE for the funds. The Wyoming Business Council (WBC) will provide direct consulting with each of the entitled cities and counties in an effort to assure that they all apply and receive the entitled allocation. The direct outreach will be through the WBC regional director network with support from other state office staff as needed. There are no matching requirements for the DOE awards. Application deadline for all applicants is June 25, 2009. The allocation must be obligated /committed within 18 months from the effective date of the award with projects completed and all funds expended within 36 months of the effective date of the award.

PROGRAM

The entitled cities and counties may choose to use their funds in a variety of eligible activities. The state however, has elected to limit sub-grants to one eligible activity, energy efficiency retrofits. The program is developed because of the simplicity and ability to achieve significant energy efficiency improvements. The implementation of the program which focuses on energy efficiency retrofits on existing buildings will stimulate the creation or retention of jobs and will benefit communities as a whole by reducing the operating budgets of the local governments which serve the people. Due to the long-term nature of the investments (essentially capital investments in structures), it is also our hope that these programs will create lasting energy efficiency improvements and behavioral change across a variety of Wyoming constituents.

Sixty percent (60%) or more of the State Energy Office (SEO) allocation (\$5,756,100) must be used to provide sub-grants to units of local government that did not receive a direct allocation. Up to thirty-three percent (33%) of the allocation (\$3,187,400) can be used to provide sub-grants to all eligible applicants including those cities and counties receiving a direct allocation, non-profit organizations and Tribal entities. The remaining seven percent (7%) will be used for administration with the majority of the funds budgeted for a third party inspection and auditing contract.