



Recovery Update from the Iowa Office of Energy Independence

June 29, 2009

The Iowa Office of Energy Independence (OEI) is pleased to announce the release of applications for **State Energy Program (SEP)** funding under the American Recovery & Reinvestment Act of 2009. The Secretary of Energy himself, Dr. Steven Chu, visited Des Moines last week to give Iowa the first approval for an SEP application in the nation. It includes:

- **\$17 million** for the buy-down of energy efficiency and renewable energy improvements in the public sector
- **\$7 million** in low-interest loans for energy efficiency and renewable energy improvements in the private sector (including manufacturing and agriculture)
- **\$5 million** in low-interest loans for energy efficiency and renewable energy improvements for non-profit entities
- **\$2 million** in grants for technology demonstration projects, which implement technology that is commercially-available, but not yet widely-used in Iowa
- **Up to \$1 million** in grants for training projects which help to quickly implement the SEP
- **Up to \$2 million** for the buy-down of innovative projects which don't fit in any of the other five categories

All applicants should be aware that there are both **state and federal requirements** for the use of SEP funding.

- Only technology which is market-ready and commercially-available may be funded with SEP money
- SEP funding can't be used for the purchase of land or the construction of buildings
- Applicants must own the buildings with which they are requesting funding for, or have a long-term leasing agreement in place with documentation of paid utility bills
- Any information submitted to OEI in SEP applications will be public information under Iowa law and may be released as such, unless confidentiality is requested and approved
- More requirements can be found in the application package itself at <http://www.energy.iowa.gov/ARRA09/SEP.html>

Applications will be reviewed using a **variety of measures** and with information from a **variety of sources**.

- Applicants must include an appropriate energy analysis (audit, life cycle cost analysis, etc.) with all applications for building projects
- Applicants must also agree to use the free Energy Star Portfolio Manager software at www.energystar.gov for any building projects
- This information will be used to help evaluate the energy saved, energy generated, emissions reduced, and cost savings for each application
- Jobs created and retained, funds leveraged, shovel-readiness, and visibility will all be similarly important
- Applications will also score more highly if their buildings are highly efficient or if they will implement efficiencies before any renewable energy improvements

The **deadline for SEP applications** to be received by OEI is 5:00 PM Central Standard Time on August 12, 2009.

For more information, contact Sean Bagniewski at sean.bagniewski@iowa.gov or visit <http://www.energy.iowa.gov/ARRA09/index.html>.



- Any modifications to the SEP application package will be posted at <http://www.energy.iowa.gov/ARRA09/SEP/modifications.html>
- Important modifications will also be sent out through the Recovery Update mailing list at http://www.energy.iowa.gov/ARRA09/Recovery_Update.html
- A frequently asked questions page can be found at <http://www.energy.iowa.gov/ARRA09/SEP/FAQ.html> to assist individuals and organizations through the application process
- These pages are meant to complement the serious efforts that have been dedicated to ensuring that the application package is easy to understand and to complete **without the help of any third parties who may seek payment for their services**

Again, thank you for your time and patience as we have developed and launched this program. We truly look forward to reviewing the best of Iowa's energy projects and to working with you in the near future.