



New Hampshire Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant Program Funding Distribution Proposal



July 8, 2009

Under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, \$3.2 billion has been appropriated nationally to the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant Program (EECBG). Of the \$12.5 million that New Hampshire will receive, \$2.9 million will be allocated directly to the State's 10 largest municipalities. The remaining \$9.6 million will be conferred to the New Hampshire Office of Energy and Planning (OEP) in phased increments to fund the implementation of strategies relating to:

- Reduction of fossil fuel emissions;
- Reduction of total energy use, and
- Improved energy efficiency in transportation, buildings and other areas.

New Hampshire's EECBG Program

OEP proposes to distribute approximately 70% of New Hampshire's EECBG money in the form of subgrants. Municipalities and counties will be able to apply for any project that falls within activity areas established by the US Department of Energy (DOE). For evaluation and award distribution purposes, however, applications will be categorized as follows:

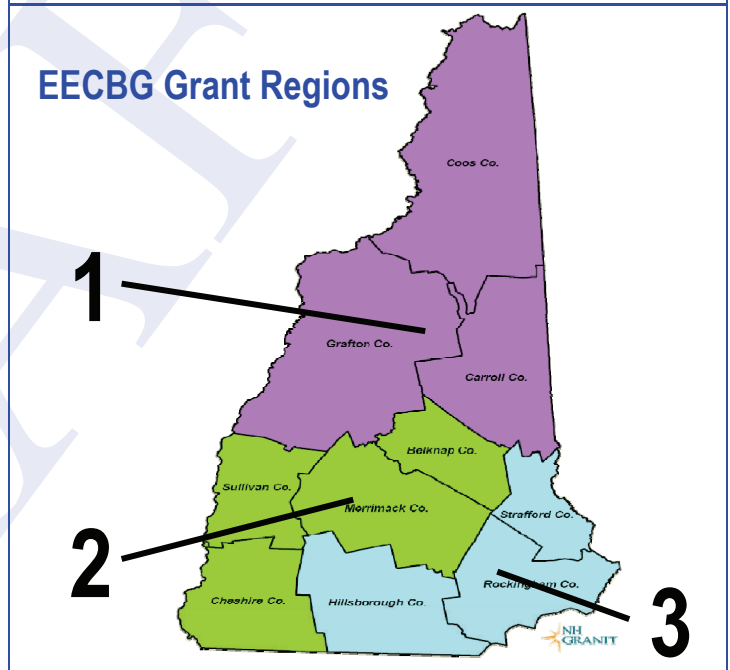
- Building Retrofits
- Energy Audits
- Transportation
- Solid Waste/Wastewater
- Financial Incentive Programs
- Other innovative projects that fall within DOE's EECBG eligible activities (see www.nh.gov/oep/recovery/eecbg.htm)

OEP plans to develop an RFP to hire a Grant Manager. In collaboration with OEP, the Grant Manager will:

- Develop an application, application scoring criteria and related guidance materials;
- Conduct program workshops;
- Collect and evaluate applications and select awardees, and
- Facilitate reporting and ensure subgrantee compliance with all state and federal requirements.

OEP also proposes to set aside \$2 million to hire one or more partners to assist each participating New Hampshire municipality or county in inventorying its energy use and creating a road map toward increased energy efficiency and decreased energy use and fossil fuel emissions. While the inventories will give communities a snapshot of their recent energy use, the roadmaps will provide enduring guidance that will continue to pay dividends long after ARRA has passed. The road mapping process will apply generally accepted methods for increasing energy efficiency to the individual needs and characteristics of each community.

Funding Breakdown (approximate)	
Statewide Inventory & Energy Planning Service	\$2,000,000
Grant Manager	up to \$500,000
Grants	\$6,593,500
Region 1	\$634,500
Region 2	\$1,226,900
Region 3	\$3,082,100
General	\$1,650,000
OEP Administration	up to \$500,000
TOTAL	\$9,593,500



The road mapping process will involve:

- Education of energy planning principles and processes;
- Community forums to evaluate perceived needs and priorities;
- Assessment of community capacity and ability to implement selected actions;
- Financial planning for future grants, projects and initiatives, and
- Publication of a Community Energy Efficiency and Conservation Strategy that sets priorities and makes recommendations for implementation.

For more information, please contact Dari Sassan at 603-271-1765 or dari.sassan@nh.gov, or go to: www.nh.gov/oep/recovery/eecbg.htm