

Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grants

Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) Description: The stimulus bill provides \$3.5 billion for support of the EECBG program. This will be a new Department of Energy (DOE) program requiring rules and guidance from the DOE. Funds will be distributed on a formula basis to cities with populations of at least 35,000, counties with populations of at least 200,000, or to State Energy Programs. There are no matching requirements. The exact funding formula has not been established; however, the Wyoming State Energy Program, housed in the Wyoming Business Council, estimates that the state will receive a total of \$6.2 million, \$3.5 million of which must be passed through to counties and communities less than 35,000 in population. Cheyenne and Casper will receive separate allocations based on their population.

Use of the funds: The funding must be used by September 2010. Funds will be utilized for the following purposes, including, but not limited to:

- implementing residential, commercial, institutional and industrial energy efficiency programs
- establishing and expanding financial incentives for energy efficiency improvements
- expanding building and transportation efficiency programs
- improving energy efficient building codes and providing training to implement these measures
- expanding distributed generation programs
- expanding material conservation programs
- expansion of renewable energy programs
- expanding public education programs for energy efficiency and renewable energy
- expanding energy service performance contracting programs
- promoting the use of energy efficiency and renewable energy as economic development tools
- increasing the number of “Green Jobs”
- promoting regional cooperation
- facilitating sharing of best energy practices between units of local government and between units of local government and the state
- increasing coordination with utilities on energy efficiency and renewable energy programs including promulgation of measurement and verification methodologies