

March 22, 2009

## Energy Efficiency

The purpose of the Competitive Energy effort is to get Wyoming in a position to compete for funds the US Department of Energy may have available for use in the area of energy efficiency. A number of federal programs are targeted on more efficient use of energy both at the residential level and at the industrial level.

A team has been assembled to create pre-proposal documents (5 page concept papers with budget estimates) which can be used to respond to Notice of Intent and Funding Opportunity Announcements issued by the DOE. The team consists of representatives from the School of Energy Research at the University of Wyoming, the Office of Research and Economic Development at the University of Wyoming, the School of Engineering at the University of Wyoming, Western Research Institute, Wyoming State Geological Survey, Wyoming Public Service Commission, Wyoming Infrastructure Authority, Wyoming Pipeline Authority, Wyoming Business Council, the State Energy Office and the Governor's Office.

The approach taken was to identify those areas of strategic importance to the long-term economic development of the state. Five areas became the focus of the team's efforts which are advance coal conversion, carbon capture and storage, energy efficiency, infrastructure, and renewable energy.

With respect to energy efficiency at least two areas defined in the ARRA legislation involve weatherization and the state energy program. The weatherization money is formulaic based on a number of factors and is likely to flow to the State in a straight-forward manner. The state energy program is another matter in that the legislation requires assurance by the Governor that certain objectives will be met. Some of these assurances are beyond the control of the Governor or involve legislation not currently contemplated. Therefore, the money in the state energy program is

uncertain at this point. Additionally, there are funds that will be subject to competitive proposal.

There are multiple billions of dollars in the ARRA attached to these goals of energy efficiency. The objective is to be competitive enough with proposals to attract dollars to Wyoming.

Given the extremely competitive nature of this source of funds it is not possible to give a firm estimate of the money that may flow to Wyoming.

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