US ERA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT

USDA Rural Development's Rural Energy for America Program













REAP RES/EEI Projects

- Grants
- Loan Guarantees
- Grant/Guaranteed Loan Combinations





REAP Grants (RES & EEI Projects)

- Finances up to 25% of the cost of a rural energy project
- Maximum REAP grant: \$500,000 (\$250,000 max for energy efficiency)



REAP Guaranteed Loans

- Lender-driven: federal guarantee of bank loans for energy projects
- \$25 million max loan amount
- Lender gets a 60-85% guarantee on their loan (depending on loan size)
- Loan can finance up to 75% of project



REAP "Combos" (Grants & Guaranteed Loans)

- Combination cannot exceed 75% of project cost
- "Combo" projects have priority access to grants
- "Combo" requires a willing lender



REAP Eligible Technologies

- Wind turbines, small & large
- Solar PV or hot-water
- Biomass & Bioenergy biofuels (e.g., biodiesel) or electricity (e.g., biomass boilers & wood pellets) from renewable organic source materials
- Anaerobic Digester animal waste
- Geothermal electric or direct use
- Hydroelectric micro-hydro (30 megawatts or less)
- Ocean proven technologies only
- Energy Efficiency



REAP Eligible Applicants

- Agricultural Producers
 (50% or more of income from agriculture operation)
- Small Rural Businesses (SBA size standards)

Not eligible:

- Nonprofits & Public Entities
- Residential projects



REAP Other Requirements

- Project must be located in rural area (non-metro)
- Own and control project site
- Commercially-available technology (not R & D or demonstration projects)
- Project must cash flow and operate successfully





REAP Process

(RES and EEI Projects)

- Fiscal year 2010 completed
- 2010 Notice of Solicitation of Applications (Published 4/26/10, Filing Deadline 6/30/10)
- Early submissions critical
- Accepting applications for 2011





REAP Funds Available

- FY 2009 Funding = \$62.5 Million
- FY 2010 Funding = \$60 Million (Manditory)

\$39.34 Million (Discretionary)

\$99.34 Million Total Funding

FY 2011 & 2012 Manditory Funding = \$70 Million





2010 State Allocation (RES and EEI)

- \$1,075,714 Grants > \$20,000
- \$683,287 Grants \$20,000 or less
- \$6,290,323 Loan Guarantee
 (Budget Authority \$857,500)
- National Office REAP Reserve \$18.5 million



REAP Grants "The Sweet Spot"

Projects with best chance of success:

- Small renewable energy and energy efficiency projects
 - \$20,000 or less grant request (special set aside)
 - Cost ≤ \$200,000, i.e. < \$50,000 grant request)
 - Energy Efficiency, Solar, small wind
 - Such projects submit simpler applications
 - No feasibility study required, less detailed Technical Report
- Combo Grant and Loan Guarantee Projects
 - Receive priority in consideration for grant





Past REAP Projects in California

- Solar PV (most popular)
- Anaerobic Digesters
- Small Wind
- Biofuel Production
- Direct Geothermal
- Energy Efficiency (lighting)





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