



American Recovery and Reinvestment Act – NH State Energy Program Narratives and Funding Proposals

Updated May 19, 2009

Overview: The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act allocated \$25.8M to the State of New Hampshire for State Energy Programs, to be managed by the Office of Energy and Planning (OEP). In order to release those funds, OEP submitted a comprehensive plan for distribution to the US Department of Energy (DOE). OEP is awaiting approval of the plan, which may not be forthcoming until the late summer of 2009. All funds must be expended by March 30, 2009. The following summaries describe the proposals made to DOE for use of the funds. As more information is developed, OEP will supplement the website and can include anyone interested on an [email listserv](#).

Note: OEP will issue Requests for Proposals (RFP) in the coming months for administration of many of the programs listed below; however no RFP may be signed into agreement until OEP receives funding from DOE. All RFPs for State Energy Programs funded by the Recovery Act will be posted at www.nh.gov/recovery and www.nh.gov/oepl. OEP will make every effort to announce other programs and projects funded by the Recovery Act.

OEP will impose stringent reporting requirements on all awardees, including timely expenditure of the funds, calculation of job creation and retention, energy savings, emissions reductions, and environmental impact statements, where appropriate. Compliance with all Recovery Act requirements will be emphasized in the RFPs. Those who do not meet the guidelines or who prove incapable of expending funds in a timely manner will be required to return the funds to OEP for redistribution.

This list is in Alphabetical Order

1. Building Code Compliance

Request for Proposals – to come

The NH State Building Code Review Board has initiated the process for adopting the 2009 International Energy Conservation Code concurrent to this application. The goal for this program is to develop a plan to train and mobilize building professionals to achieve 90% enforcement of the 2009 International Energy Conservation Code within 8 years. Better trained design professionals, building contractors, and building inspectors/code officials will incorporate energy code into construction work. Additionally, by educating homeowners, landlords, and commercial property owners about the benefits of improved building energy performance and enforcement policies for all construction, the energy performance bar will be raised and compliance will be achieved.

Pass through: \$600,000.00

Total: \$674,147.33

2. Business and Commercial EE/RE Loan/Grant Program

Request for Proposals – to come

Many of New Hampshire's businesses, commercial enterprises, institutions and nonprofits operate in inefficient buildings, and use more energy for heating and electricity than is optimal. These businesses and institutions seek to reduce their energy use and cost through a variety of measures, including more energy efficient processes. Employers need to reduce costs wherever possible, but to make the investment in energy efficiency, to save jobs and enterprises, financial and technical assistance is needed. This program will distribute loan and grant funds through a partnering agency selected through a formal RFP program, which will then be targeted to large enterprises seeking to make their buildings and/or industrial processes more energy efficient. Funds may also be used to invest in onsite renewable energy generating technologies.

Pass through: \$2,500,000.00

Total: \$2,534,893.09

3. Community College System of New Hampshire EE/RE Building Projects

Memorandum of Agreement with CCSNH

The Community College System of New Hampshire (CCSNH) consists of six independent colleges on 13 campuses throughout the state. Ten percent of state owned buildings are on these campuses. A grant to the Community College System of New Hampshire will improve the energy efficiency of targeted buildings reducing energy use and generating clean energy. These upgrades and investments will showcase the technologies to the communities where they are based, and provide a learning opportunity for students.

Pass through: \$1,300,000.00

Total: \$1,311,018.18

4. Expanded Alternative Fueled Vehicle/Rideshare

Memorandum of Agreement with the Department of Environmental Services

This expansion of the New Hampshire alternative fuels transportation program will allow for the purchase of hybrid and CNG vehicles. It will promote:

1. The adoption of alternative fueled and hybrid vehicles within state government, municipal and private fleets.
2. Carpooling, park and ride, telecommuting, and other transportation alternatives

Pass through: \$400,000.00

Total: \$414,663.74

5. Expanded Business Energy Efficiency Program

Memorandum of Agreement with the Department of Resources and Economic Development

The expanded Business Energy Efficiency Program run by the Department of Resources and Economic Development in conjunction with a private-sector energy auditor will improve energy efficiency in NH-based companies through the following:

1. Outreach, education and comprehensive energy audits
2. Audit follow-up and technical assistance aimed at helping businesses finance and carry out recommended retrofitting work
3. Technical assistance and special project oversight relating to buildings, manufacturing processes, and procurement of materials and equipment as requested

Pass through: \$750,000.00

Total: \$786,409.09

6. Expanded Procurement Standards

Memorandum of Agreement with the Department of Administrative Services

Expand and enforce current State of New Hampshire procurement standards as contained in Executive Order 2005-04. This will be done through outreach and education to state procurement staff and collaboration with the Department of Administrative Services. Expanded monitoring and evaluation procedures will be established for state vehicle procurement standards, new street lighting standards, and NH Community College System procurement.

Pass through: \$0.00

Total: \$9,967.49

7. Expanded Renewable Energy Program

Memorandum of Agreement with the Public Utilities Commission, Sustainable Energy Division

New Hampshire has significant renewable energy resources, opportunities and existing renewable generation capacity that have not been adequately quantified. The goal of this program is to develop and begin to implement processes for capturing data related to a variety of renewable energy sources, and based on these findings, to promote the expansion of renewable energy generation in all sectors. A new rebate program will be offered for solar hot water and biomass heating systems to be administered by the NH Public Utilities Commission as part of its existing program to provide incentives to residential renewable energy.

Pass through: \$500,000

Total: \$580,921.17

8. Feasibility Studies and Training Program

Request for Proposals – to come

There is an identified need for several studies to provide solid information to energy planners, municipal and state officials, and renewable energy developers. Lack of funding has prevented these studies from being undertaken in the past. An additional technical assistance component will ensure that these studies are disseminated to the public and private sectors through training and outreach. This program will allow data mapping, technical studies, and feasibility studies to provide information regarding:

1. Increasing the transmission capacity of electricity grid in northern New Hampshire to allow for proposed renewable energy projects
2. Providing publicly available, web-based, integrated GIS mapping capability regarding state wind resources
3. Existing biomass resources and the potential impact of commercial biomass project proposals on forests and communities.

Pass through: \$400,000

Total: \$457,098.48

9. First Time Homebuyer's Energy Efficiency Program

Request for Proposals – to come

This subcontracted revolving-loan fund program will encourage the improvement of residential homes by providing low and no-interest loans and grants to first-time homebuyers for energy efficiency improvements. All principal and interest returned to the fund will be reinvested in residential energy efficiency programs.

Pass through: \$1,500,000

Total: \$1,519,330.67

10. Innovative Initiatives

Request for Proposals – to come

A request for proposals for innovative initiatives from the public and private sectors will focus on providing funding not otherwise available for projects with high potential for market transformation. Prioritized will be those projects that can demonstrate dramatic reductions in energy use or the successful application of renewable energy technologies. Attention will be paid to documenting and disseminating to the public the development of these projects and the energy and cost savings realized as a result. In addition, a collaborative review board consisting of state agency personnel as well as private sector volunteers will also be created to analyze renewable and energy efficiency technology and processes that are brought to the attention of the state. These technologies and processes will be evaluated for cost-effective adoption by the public and private sectors.

Pass through: \$1,529,273.76

Total: \$1,574,546.21

11. Municipal Energy Planning Program

Request for Proposals – to come

New Hampshire's 234 towns and cities range in size and sophistication regarding how they manage energy in their buildings, transportation sector, school districts and land use policies. This program will allow for the hiring of a subcontracting agency to work with communities throughout the state to help them to develop energy management strategies that are based on model best practices, and help them to avoid costly and ineffective energy measures. This work will take place in close coordination with the EECBG program as well as other relatively new sources of funding from NH's renewable portfolio standard and the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative funds.

Pass through: \$300,000

Total: \$340,803.28

12. Program Support

Staff at OEP

Program support will enhance the effectiveness of the Recovery Act State Energy Program. This will be achieved by:

1. Continuing to maintain the expanding network of public and private partners with whom the Office of Energy and Planning works.
2. Helping to coordinate energy-related funding opportunities available from a variety of funding sources.
3. Overseeing the development of common standards and certification requirements for auditors and other energy professionals.
4. Gathering data and submitting reports as required by State of New Hampshire and the Department of Energy under the Recovery Act.
5. Providing project planning, oversight, and administrative services.

Pass through: \$0.00

Total: \$487,332.35

13. Residential EE Program Expansion

Request for Proposals – to come

Funding will be provided both to existing ratepayer funded energy efficiency programs as well as to new fuel-blind and income-blind programs run by the private sector and municipal utilities.

This funding will be used to incent energy efficiency and conservation measures through rebates on efficient purchases of lighting and appliances, insulation and air sealing, and other measures.

Objectives of the program include:

1. Increase energy efficiency of residential ratepayers.
2. Save residential customers money through lower energy bills.
3. Help to avoid the need for new generating facilities.
4. Create jobs in the energy services sector.
5. Disseminate information to the public relating to energy efficiency and available financial incentives.
6. Provide energy efficiency incentives to ratepayers of municipal-owned utilities for the first time.

Pass through: \$2,000,000.00

Total: \$2,045,090.10

14. Small business EE/RE grant/loan program

Request for Proposals – to come

Small businesses in New Hampshire are the backbone of our economy. These small businesses need technical and financial assistance in making their facilities and processes more energy efficient and sustainable, and doing so can be the difference between staying in business and closing down. Small and micro loan and grant funds will be distributed through a subcontracted administrator for businesses seeking to make their facilities or businesses more energy efficient or powered or to switch to renewable energy systems.

Pass through: \$1,000,000.00

Total: \$1,033,391.59

15. State Building EE/RE Program

Memorandum of Agreement with the Department of Administrative Services

New Hampshire's Executive Order 2005-04 calls for the State to Lead by Example with energy efficiency improvements that lead to a reduction in energy use by 10% in State-owned facilities.

Recovery Act funding will allow for energy efficiency upgrades to 75 state-owned buildings, saving energy and energy costs to the taxpayers. These funds will supplement existing efforts, including performance contracting, building maintenance, and high-efficiency new construction.

Pass through: \$10,700,000.00

Total: \$10,746,369.05

16. University System EE/RE Building Projects

Memorandum of Agreement with University System of New Hampshire

The University of New Hampshire has an energy plan that includes energy efficiency upgrades. A pass-through grant will allow the university system to make high priority energy efficiency upgrades or invest in renewable energy technologies.

Pass through: \$1,300,000.00

Total: \$1,311,018.18