



## Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grants

### *Competitive Local Government & Schools Sub-Grants Program*

In 2009, Vermont received \$31.5 million from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) including \$21,999,000 for the State Energy Program and \$9,593,500 for the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) from the US Department of Energy for distribution through FY 2010. Passed into law by Congress in February 2009 and signed by President Obama four days later, the Recovery Act has three immediate goals:

- Create new jobs and save existing ones
- Spur economic activity and invest in long-term growth
- Foster unprecedented levels of accountability and transparency in government spending

The purpose of Vermont's EECBG competitive local government sub-grant program is to provide support for projects of eligible units of local government that implement energy efficiency measures in buildings and transportation, install energy efficient traffic signals and street lighting, provide energy efficiency financial incentive programs, or install renewable energy generation systems. Eligible units of local government for this program included cities, towns, town school districts, incorporated schools, and incorporated villages.<sup>1</sup>

There were two steps to this application process. An Initial Application was due December 8<sup>th</sup> and Comprehensive Applications were due February 23<sup>rd</sup>. CEDF received 323 Initial Applications requesting over \$13 million, and invited 162 applicants to submit Comprehensive Applications. The fund received 151 Comprehensive Applications requesting almost \$6 million in funding. A total of \$5.8 million in funding was awarded by the CEDF Board in March to 128 distinct units of government for energy efficiency retrofit and renewable energy projects.

Prospective applicants were invited to submit proposals in five categories: Energy Efficiency Retrofits, Financial Incentive Programs for Energy Efficiency, Implementation of Transportation Projects, Renewable Energy Technologies on Government Buildings, and Traffic Signals and Street Lighting.

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<sup>1</sup> Units of local government that were eligible for direct Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) funding from the U.S. Department of Energy (Town of Bennington, Town of Brattleboro, Burlington, Town of Colchester, Town of Essex, Village of Essex Junction, Town of Hartford, Town of Milton, Rutland, South Burlington, Addison County, Caledonia County, Chittenden County, Franklin County, Orange County, Orleans County, Rutland County, Washington County, Windham County, and Windsor County) were not eligible. Regional Planning Commissions are also not eligible as they are already receiving direct EECBG funds. Towns, Villages, and schools within these towns/cities/counties were eligible.

## **Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grants (EECBG)**

### **FUNDING CATEGORIES**

Below are descriptions for each category for these sub-grants and a brief description of the type of projects funded.

#### **Energy Efficiency Retrofits**

Under this category applicants could apply for funds to retrofit existing facilities to improve energy efficiency. Funded projects include the following measures: installation of insulation; installation of efficient lighting; heating and ventilation; weather sealing; the purchase and installation of ENERGY STAR appliances (including boilers and furnaces); and replacement of windows and doors. All projects must be on, in, or servicing municipal buildings only (including schools). The maximum funding amount for this category was \$50,000. Projects must be completed within one year of award.

The majority of the projects in this category entailed the installation of insulation and generally tightening up buildings. Some applicants also included replacing heating systems while a few included window and door replacements and energy star appliance purchases.

#### **Financial Incentive Programs for Energy Efficiency**

Entities could establish financial incentive programs and mechanisms for energy efficiency improvements such as energy saving performance contracting and on-bill financing under this category. The maximum grant amount for this category was \$250,000. Projects must be completed within one year of award.

All the proposals received in this category were to implement Property Accessed Clean Energy (PACE) programs. The four towns approved will pool their funds to create a PACE framework usable by small towns and will create PACE programs in each of their towns with central administration. The Town of Putney, which received the most funds, will also start a pilot PACE loan program.

#### **Renewable Energy Technologies on Government Buildings**

Entities could use grant funds to implement and install on or in any government building (including schools) of the eligible entity the following renewable energy technologies: Geothermal Heat Pumps (5.5-ton capacity or smaller horizontal closed loop); Biomass Boilers (3 MMBtus or smaller with appropriate Best Available Control Technologies installed and operated); and Combined Heat and Power Systems (boilers sized appropriately for the existing building in which they are located). The maximum grant award for this category was \$75,000. Projects must be completed within one year of award.

Of the three renewable energy projects that were approved for funding, one features a geothermal system (Sutton School) and the other two will utilize wood pellet boilers.

**Traffic Signals and Street Lighting**

Entities could use grant funds to replace traffic signals and street lighting with energy efficient lighting technologies, including light emitting diodes; and any other technology of equal or greater energy efficiency. Exterior lighting was also eligible for this category. The maximum funding amount for this category was \$50,000. Projects must be completed within one year of award.

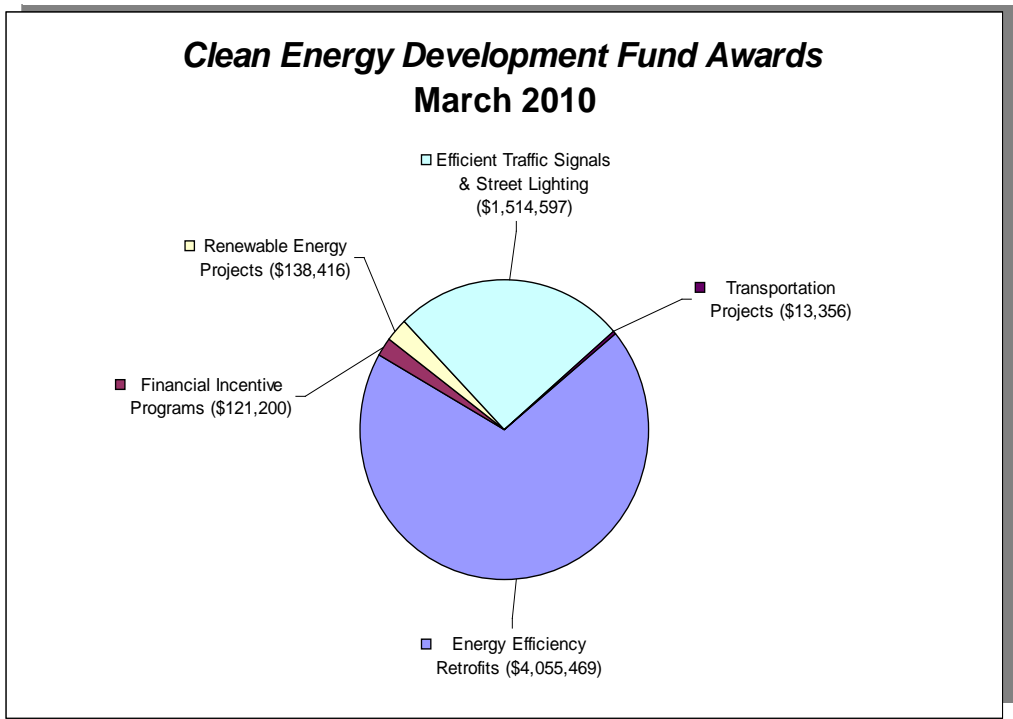
**Implementation of Transportation Programs**

Entities could develop and implement projects to conserve energy used in transportation. The maximum funding amount for this category was \$25,000. Projects must be completed within one year of award.

CEDF had one applicant in the comprehensive round in this category. The project will include the purchase of route software to allow the applicant to analyze and improve bus routes for optimizing saving energy and fuel, and personnel time while improving safety with accurate and up to date data of anticipated student riders per route, per day.

**Awards Summary**

Energy Efficiency Retrofits .....	\$4,055,468.90
Financial Incentives for Energy Efficiency .....	\$121,200.00
Renewable Energy Technologies on Govt. Buildings .....	\$138,416.00
Traffic Signals and Street Lighting .....	\$1,514,596.81
Implementation of Transportation Projects .....	\$13,356.00
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>\$5,843,037.71</b>



## **March 2010 Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energy Awards**

There was a maximum grant award of \$50,000 for Energy Efficiency Retrofits, \$250,000 for Financial Incentive Programs for Energy Efficiency, \$25,000 for Transportation Projects, \$75,000 for Renewable Energy Technologies, and \$50,000 for Traffic Signals and Street Lighting.

The following applicants were selected for grant awards:

<b><u>Energy Efficiency Retrofits</u></b>	<b><u>Award (\$)</u></b>
Bellows Free Academy Fairfax .....	\$50,000.00
Bingham Memorial School .....	\$50,000.00
Bridport Central School .....	\$45,675.00
Bristol Elem School.....	\$50,000.00
Calais Elementary School .....	\$49,199.99
Charlotte School District .....	\$50,000.00
City of Barre.....	\$50,000.00
City of Montpelier* .....	\$50,000.00
City of Winooski .....	\$25,000.00
Craftsbury Schools.....	\$45,000.00
Currier Memorial School .....	\$47,660.55
Dover School District.....	\$12,950.00
East Montpelier Elem School .....	\$50,000.00
Eden Central School District.....	\$39,237.35
Flood Brook Union School.....	\$50,000.00
Frederic Duclos Barstow Memorial School .....	\$48,000.00
Green Mountain Union High School .....	\$50,000.00
Harwood Union High School .....	\$47,302.50
Highgate Elementary School .....	\$44,668.38
Irasburg Village School .....	\$49,743.00
JFK Middle School/Winooski School District.....	\$50,000.00
Johnson Town School District .....	\$45,820.08
Leicester Central School.....	\$50,000.00
Lincoln Elem School.....	\$35,429.00
Lowell Graded School.....	\$21,600.00
Marlboro School District .....	\$45,000.00
Middlebury Union Middle School .....	\$50,000.00
Middletown Springs Elementary School .....	\$50,000.00
Monkton Elem School .....	\$50,000.00
Mt Abraham Union High School.....	\$50,000.00
Mt Mansfield School District.....	\$50,000.00
Mt. Anthony Union High School District .....	\$50,000.00
New Haven (Beeman) Elem School.....	\$46,553.00
Newfane School District .....	\$50,000.00
Orange Center School .....	\$50,000.00
Orleans Elementary School .....	\$50,000.00
Pittsford School District.....	\$31,561.75

Randolph Union High School.....	\$50,000.00
Royalton School District .....	\$45,000.00
Shoreham Elementary School .....	\$32,175.00
Shrewsbury Mountain School .....	\$50,000.00
South Burlington School District .....	\$50,000.00
Starksboro (Robinson) Elem School .....	\$49,785.00
Strafford School District .....	\$50,000.00
Town of Bakersfield.....	\$40,316.00
Town of Belvidere School District .....	\$8,481.00
Town of Brighton.....	\$50,000.00
Town of Burke .....	\$11,063.85
Town of Cavendish .....	\$50,000.00
Town of Charlotte .....	\$25,546.50
Town of Chelsea .....	\$47,451.00
Town of Chittenden.....	\$21,665.00
Town of Corinth.....	\$50,000.00
Town of Fayston .....	\$18,282.00
Town of Georgia .....	\$44,298.00
Town of Granville .....	\$48,930.00
Town of Highgate .....	\$42,779.00
Town of Huntington .....	\$50,000.00
Town of Hyde Park School District .....	\$41,088.00
Town of Isle La Motte.....	\$17,600.00
Town of Jericho .....	\$49,999.00
Town of Lincoln .....	\$50,000.00
Town of Mendon.....	\$43,678.00
Town of Middlebury.....	\$43,380.00
Town of Peacham.....	\$22,422.00
Town of Plainfield* .....	\$34,500.00
Town of Randolph .....	\$50,000.00
Town of Richmond .....	\$13,284.00
Town of Shaftsbury .....	\$46,924.00
Town of Sharon .....	\$49,500.00
Town of Shoreham .....	\$50,000.00
Town of St. Johnsbury .....	\$40,250.00
Town of Starksboro .....	\$26,555.00
Town of Strafford .....	\$18,686.00
Town of Tinmouth.....	\$32,053.00
Town of Townshend.....	\$45,000.00
Town of Waitsfield .....	\$49,999.00
Town of Warren .....	\$50,000.00
Town of Waterville.....	\$40,993.00
Town of Westford .....	\$12,200.00
Town of Williamstown .....	\$45,832.50
Town of Wilmington.....	\$50,000.00
Town of Winhall .....	\$44,055.00
Troy School .....	\$50,000.00
U-32 School .....	\$50,000.00

Underhill Central Elementary School .....	\$50,000.00
Village of Bellows Falls .....	\$9,000.00
Village of Swanton.....	\$49,590.00
Waitsfield Elementary School .....	\$49,000.00
Wardsboro Central School .....	\$50,000.00
Warren Elementary School .....	\$17,208.45
Washington Village School.....	\$50,000.00
Waterville School District.....	\$21,394.00
West Rutland School .....	\$50,000.00
Whiting Village School.....	\$17,905.00
Williamstown Elementary School .....	\$37,500.00
Woodbury Town School District.....	\$29,000.00
Woodstock Elementary School .....	\$40,700.00

***Sub-Total: Energy Efficiency Retrofits ..... \$4,055,468.90***

**Financial Incentive Programs Award (\$)**

Town of Middlesex.....	\$13,900.00
Town of Putney .....	\$72,000.00
Town of Thetford .....	\$21,600.00
Town of Waitsfield .....	\$13,700.00

***Sub-Total: Financial Incentive Programs ..... \$121,200.00***

**Renewable Energy Technologies Award (\$)**

Sutton School District.....	\$42,000.00
Town of East Montpelier.....	\$38,700.00
Town of Fayston .....	\$57,716.00

***Sub-Total: Renewable Energy Technologies .. \$138,416.00***

**Street Lighting and Exterior Lights Award (\$)**

Barre Elementary/Middle School.....	\$41,139.00
Bellows Free Academy Fairfax .....	\$40,105.80
Camels Hump Middle School* .....	\$50,000.00
City of St. Albans .....	\$50,000.00
City of Winooski .....	\$50,000.00
Colchester School District .....	\$50,000.00
East Haven School District.....	\$10,000.00
Folsom Educational and Community Center.....	\$46,925.00
Georgia Elementary and Middle School.....	\$49,421.40
Highgate Elementary School .....	\$36,958.50
Jericho Elementary School .....	\$43,020.00
Lamoille Union School District #18 .....	\$47,107.11

Lyndon Town School District.....	\$50,000.00
Milton Town School District.....	\$45,747.00
Missisquoi Valley Union HS.....	\$50,000.00
Morrisville Water & Light.....	\$38,307.00
Mt Abraham Union High School.....	\$19,221.00
Mt. Anthony Union High School District.....	\$30,332.00
Newark School District.....	\$10,914.00
Orleans Elementary School.....	\$12,433.00
Pittsford School District.....	\$24,905.00
Smilie Memorial School.....	\$39,420.00
South Burlington School District.....	\$50,000.00
Springfield School District.....	\$50,000.00
St. Albans Town Educational Center.....	\$50,000.00
Starksboro (Robinson) Elementary School.....	\$12,717.00
Sutton School District.....	\$10,000.00
Swanton School.....	\$50,000.00
Town of East Montpelier.....	\$28,386.00
Town of Georgia.....	\$18,122.00
Town of Killington.....	\$15,480.00
Town of Shelburne.....	\$50,000.00
Town of Strafford.....	\$18,860.00
Town of Thetford.....	\$23,282.00
Town of Waterbury.....	\$49,725.00
U-32 School.....	\$50,000.00
Underhill Central Elementary School.....	\$45,540.00
Underhill ID Elementary School.....	\$44,280.00
Unified School District 37-Millers Run.....	\$17,010.00
Village of Johnson.....	\$49,950.00
Village of Swanton*.....	\$45,289.00

***Sub-Total: Street Lighting and Exterior Lights \$1,514,596.81***

**Implementation of Transportation Programs                      Award (\$)**

Otter Valley Union High School.....	\$13,356.00
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***Sub-Total: Transportation Programs ..... \$13,356.00***

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**TOTAL Funding: ..... \$5,843,037.71**

NOTE: Awards marked with an asterisk (\*) are provisional and subject to final changes.

Additional information on the CEDF, including grants, loans, municipal opportunities and residential incentives, is available in the on the Clean Energy Development Fund website at: [http://publicservice.vermont.gov/energy/ee\\_cleanenergyfund.html](http://publicservice.vermont.gov/energy/ee_cleanenergyfund.html).