



**NOTICE OF STAFF WORKSHOPS:
ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND CONSERVATION BLOCK GRANT
PROGRAM
STATE ENERGY PROGRAM FUNDING ALLOCATION**

The California Energy Commission staff will conduct workshops in various parts of the state to discuss the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) provisions as they pertain to the disbursement of funds for specific energy related projects. The workshops will be divided into two sections, one focusing on the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant Program (Block Grant) and the other on energy programs and activities to support energy efficiency retrofits for residential and non-residential applications including clean energy systems and green force work development.

Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant Program Workshops

These workshops are intended to inform the various stakeholders, specifically small cities and counties, of the Block Grant program elements and objectives, application processes, and timelines for developing guidelines and opportunities for input. All three workshops will follow the same agenda and address the same issues. Commissioners from the California Energy Commission and the California Public Utilities Commission may be in attendance at the workshops.

The Block Grant funding is designed to provide 68 percent of the funds from the program directly to cities with populations over 35,000 and counties with populations over 200,000. These large cities and counties will apply directly to DOE for funding with an application deadline of June 25, 2009.

The Block Grant program then allocates 28 percent of the total funding to state energy offices. In California, this is the Energy Commission. The remaining funds are disbursed to tribes (two percent of total funding) and for competitive solicitations (two percent). At least 60 percent of the Block Grant fund allocation to the Energy Commission must be distributed through a competitive grant program for cities and counties that are not eligible for direct formula grants from the DOE. The remaining 40 percent is available for various energy efficiency and fossil fuel reduction activities. Additionally, Assembly Bill (AB) 2176 (Cabellero, Chapter 229, Statutes of 2008) provides further direction on the uses and allocation of Block Grant funds.

State Energy Program Funding Allocation

These workshops will examine the broad energy program funding areas under development and the timetable for how the public and stakeholders can assist the Energy Commission with developing guidelines. At the workshop, energy programs and activities to support energy efficiency retrofits for residential and non-residential applications, including clean energy systems and workforce development will be discussed. The Energy Commission is very

interested in obtaining feedback on these initial potential funding program areas and the types of projects that may fall in these funding areas.

Additionally, the Energy Commission staff will present and explain the following program activity areas for evaluating future proposals that include: 1) effectiveness in stimulating and creating or retaining green jobs in California; 2) achieve lasting and measureable energy benefits consistent with the "Loading Order" priority of energy efficiency and clean energy systems; 3) expend money efficiently, with accountability and minimal administrative burden; 4) contribute to meeting California's energy policy goals as defined by the Energy Commission's Integrated Energy Policy Report, California Air Resources Board's AB 32 Scoping Plan and other relevant policy documents; and, 5) leverage other federal, state, local and private financing to sustain the economy.

MONDAY, MAY 4, 2009

1 p.m. - 3 p.m. Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant Program

4 p.m. - 8 p.m. State Energy Program Funding Allocation

SOUTH COAST AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

21865 Copley Dr.

Auditorium

Diamond Bar, CA 91765

WEDNESDAY, MAY 6, 2009

1 p.m. - 3 p.m. Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant Program

4 p.m. - 8 p.m. State Energy Program Funding Allocation

UCSF FRESNO CENTER FOR MEDICAL EDUCATION AND RESEARCH

155 N. Fresno St.

Auditorium

Fresno, CA 93701

THURSDAY, MAY 7, 2009

1 p.m. - 3 p.m. Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant Program

4 p.m. - 8 p.m. State Energy Program Funding Allocation

CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION

1516 Ninth Street

First Floor, Hearing Room A

Sacramento, California

For more information on the staff workshops, please visit

<http://www.energy.ca.gov/recovery/meetings/index.html> or contact Jennifer Grutzius with the Recovery Task Force at Jennifer.grutzius@recovery.ca.gov, (916) 601-4245.