



TODAY'S CALL TOPIC

Creating Federal Funding Opportunities for Local Energy Projects

Speakers:



Andrew Seth, Executive Director
Climate Communities



Ken Brown, Senior Advisor
Climate Communities

Climate Communities Launches

ENERGY BLOCK GRANTS WORK! CAMPAIGN

Goal: \$2 billion for EECBG in FY 2012

1. Profiles of Local Clean Energy Leadership
2. Letters to President Obama
3. Media Events & Toolkit
4. Build Congressional Support

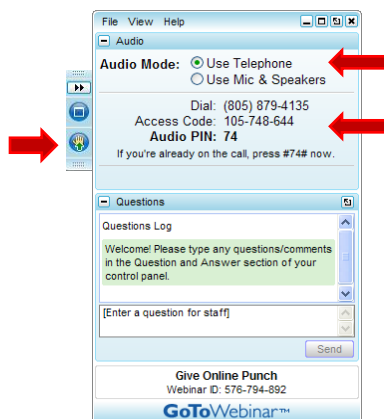
www.energyblockgrants.org

January 20, 2010

For more information: www.climatecommunities.us



Discussion



We want today's call to be **interactive**. In order to facilitate participation, you'll need to access today's call using your telephone.

We will attempt to unmute as many lines as we can during the discussion period. If your phone is not unmuted and you would like to speak, please raise your hand and we will unmute you.



2011 Climate Communities Priorities

FY 2011/2012 Federal Sustainability Funding

- DOE EECBG, EPA Climate Showcase Communities, HUD Sustainable Communities, DOT TIGER, DOE Clean Cities, EDA Global Climate Change Mitigation Fund

Fixing PACE

National Clean Energy Standard

Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Tax Credits

Transportation Reauthorization Legislation

- Provide direct funding for sustainable local transportation initiatives:
 - Cleaner vehicles and fuels, improving transit, other VMT reduction strategies – livability/walkability improvements, transit-oriented development, etc.



Upcoming Events

Local Government Thought-Leaders Retreat, Washington, DC

March 4-5, 2011

- Establish a local government clean energy blueprint for the 112th Congress.
- Meetings with key federal agency officials.
- Contact Andrew Seth at (202) 261-6011 or andy@climatecommunities.us

Local Government Clean Energy Summit, Washington, DC

June 15-17, 2011

- Major energy efficiency and renewable energy conference for local government sector.
- Demonstrate success of EECBG and other federal investments in local clean energy projects
- Share best practices.
- Urge Congress and the Obama Administration to make further clean energy investments in local governments.
- Registration to open soon.



Agenda for Today's Call

- I. Recap status of FY 2011 federal spending bills
- II. Review Climate Communities' proposal for funding local energy projects

Available at www.climatecommunities.us

- III. Discussion on how to strengthen proposal



FY 2011 Budget Status

Congress did not pass FY 2011 spending bills before recessing in December, but instead passed a Continuing Resolution to fund the federal government until March 2011.

The current Continuing Resolution funds the federal government in FY 2011 at FY 2010 levels. House Republicans have made it clear that they intend to cut between \$50-\$100 billion in spending from the FY 2011 budget before passing it. Republicans are also seeking a return to FY 2008 spending levels for the FY 2012 budget.

Between now and March 2011, Congress must either:

- Pass a year-long Continuing Resolution
- Pass an FY 2011 omnibus appropriations bill



FY 2011 Earmarks

The FY 2011 omnibus that Congress did not pass in December 2010 contained more than 6,700 earmarks. The FY 2011 spending bill that will be passed in March 2011 will almost certainly not contain earmarks.

Congress could:

- Eliminate all funding from these previously earmarked programs
- Fail to direct the funding, allowing the federal agencies discretion over how to spend it (as in FY 2007)
- Direct some or all of this funding to existing competitive grant programs



Climate Communities' Proposal

In FY 2010, \$292 million was earmarked through the U.S. Department of Energy's "Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy" account.

This funding was distributed to a total of 295 projects, many of which were awarded to local governments for innovative local projects focused on deploying renewable energy projects or implementing energy efficiency initiatives.

If the funding in this account is completely eliminated, local governments will have access to few sources of federal funding for local energy projects.



Climate Communities' Proposal

Proposed:

Congress should direct a portion of the DOE funding that is traditionally earmarked for local energy projects into a Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) competitive grant program that could fund highly innovative and replicable projects involving renewable energy generation, energy efficiency building retrofits, promotion of alternative fuel vehicles, and other efficiency initiatives.

By funding this EECBG competitive program at \$200 million, Congress could achieve a savings of nearly \$100 million over FY 2010 spending levels on this account while still providing funding to fuel local energy innovation.



Proposal Framework

The proposed competitive grant program would be based upon the EECBG Better Buildings program funded by the economic stimulus. However, Climate Communities proposes several alterations to this program to enhance local flexibility and ensure a wide range of recipients:

- Eligible applicants would include ALL cities, counties and Indian tribes
- Individual grants would range from \$500,000-\$5 million, to yield 150-200 recipients rather than 20-25 grantees
- A 20% funding set-aside for small/rural communities



Proposal Framework

Eligible Project Activities:

- Building retrofits (public, residential and commercial)
- Financial incentive programs for energy efficiency improvements
- Alternative fuel vehicles and infrastructure
- Energy distribution technologies
- Renewable energy technologies on government facilities
- Replacement of traffic signals and street lighting with energy efficient lighting technologies
- Development of building codes and inspection services to promote building energy efficiency
- Development of transportation infrastructure (e.g., bike lanes, pedestrian walkways) that reduces vehicle miles traveled
- Technologies to reduce, capture and use methane and other greenhouse gases generated by landfills, wastewater utilities or similar sources



Proposal Framework

Programmatic Goals:

Broadly, the program would be structured to encourage:

- A broad mix of project activities
- Geographical diversity
- Projects that can be replicated
- Projects that highly leverage local, state, federal, private sector or other funding to complement grant funding
- Programs that are sustainable beyond the initial grant funding period and can make a long-term impact



Get Involved in 2011

Work with Climate Communities to urge Congress to develop a new competitive DOE funding opportunity for local governments in FY 2011.

Help defend FY 2011/2012 sustainability funding resources (e.g. EPA Climate Showcase Communities, HUD Sustainable Communities, DOT TIGER, etc.).

- Send letter to and contact your Congressional delegation (available on www.climatecommunities.us)

Support Climate Communities' efforts to secure FY 2012 funding for EECBG.

- Visit www.energyblockgrants.org

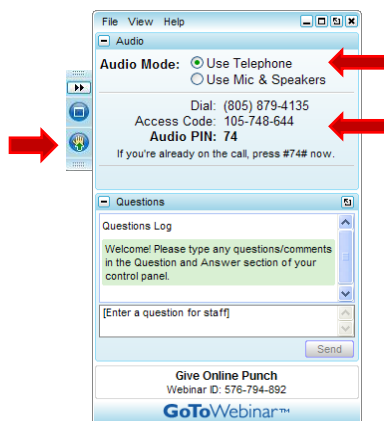
Help Climate Communities develop and implement a local government clean energy blueprint for the 112th Congress.

- March 4-5 Local Government Thought-Leaders Retreat
- June 15-17 Local Government Clean Energy Summit

Join Climate Communities.



Discussion



We want today's call to be **interactive**. In order to facilitate participation, you'll need to access today's call using your telephone.

We will attempt to unmute as many lines as we can during the discussion period. If your phone is not unmuted and you would like to speak, please raise your hand and we will unmute you.



Discussion

Would this grant program, as currently structured, be a useful source for communities?

Are there any sections of the proposal that could be strengthened? How?

Are there any sections of the proposal that are unnecessary or would not be useful?

What have we left out? Should any requirements or priorities be added to encourage specific programmatic goals or outcomes?

Would your Congressional representatives be likely to support such a proposal? If not, why not?