



CLIMATE / ENERGY FUNDING IN ECONOMIC RECOVERY LEGISLATION

Last week, the House of Representatives and the Senate completed work on the \$787 billion American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. This economic stimulus legislation was signed into law today by President Barack Obama.

The final bill includes significant funding for local energy and climate initiatives, including \$3.2 billion for the U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE) Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) program. The EECBG program will distribute \$2.8 billion by formula to eligible cities (35,000 or greater in population) and counties (200,000 or greater in population), and \$400 million will be available in competitive grants through the DOE. This funding will help local governments implement strategies to reduce fossil fuel emissions and reduce total energy use. Please click on the link below to download an EECBG fact sheet prepared by DOE:

www.climatecommunities.us/documents/eecbg_program_alert.pdf

The final economic recovery legislation also includes:

- \$300 million for DOE Clean Cities grants to promote more efficient vehicles;
- \$400 million for DOE grants for electric vehicles and other transportation electrification projects;
- \$5 billion for DOE weatherization assistance;
- \$300 million for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) grants to reduce diesel emissions;
- \$750 million in Department of Labor job training grants, including \$500 million for green jobs; and
- \$3.1 billion for the DOE State Energy Program.