

FARM ENERGY AUDITING

CERTs 2011

Clean Energy Convergence

Presented by Stan Simon, P.E.

2008 Farm Bill Program

- REAP (Rural Energy for America Program) Section 9007.
- Grant and Loan Guarantees for energy audits, feasibility studies and project development of renewable energy systems and energy efficiency improvements. Formerly 9006 program.
- Reduce energy consumption & dependence on foreign energy sources
- \$25 million in grants for FY 2009 & \$500 million in loan guarantees -
**Estimated
- Application deadlines for grants & Loan Guarantees and combo grant/guarantees to be published in the Federal Register.
- \$55 million in 2009, \$60 million in 2010, \$70 million in 2011 & 2012.

SAMPLING OF 2010 AWARDS

- Adrian, Mike EE- Grain Dryer 35,763
- Amberg, Roy Solar Large 15,714
- Arnhalt Farms, Inc. 20,000
- Ascherman, Randy EE - Grain Dryer 28,532
- Baerg, Arlyn EE - Grain Dryer 20,000
- Bagley, James EE- Grain Dryer 19,750
- Banken Farms EE - Grain Dryer 9,559
- Bauer, Kevin EE - Grain Dryer 49,858
- Benck, John EE- Grain Dryer 50,000
- Bergene, Brian EE - Grain Dryer 18,318
- Blair, Roger EE- Grain Dryer 11,813
- Blom, Morris EE- Grain Dryer 20,000
- Boesch, Lowell EE - Grain Dryer 48,177
- Bohlsen Farms, Inc. EE- Grain Dryer 19,762
- Born, Charles EE - Grain Dryer 20,000
- Bos, Douglas Solar Small 17,078

Types of Renewable Energy

- Biomass
- Wind
- Solar
- Geothermal
- Hydrogen
- Hydrokinetic

Grant Limitations

- Grant can pay no more than 25% of eligible project costs.
- Maximum RES grant is \$500,000.
- Maximum EEI grant is \$250,000.
- Minimum grant is \$2,500 for RES & \$1,500 for EEI.

Eligible Applicants

- Agricultural Producers & Small Rural Businesses (SBA definition).
 - So, not just farmers necessarily.

Grant Purposes

- Purchase renewable energy systems.
- Make energy efficiency improvements.
- Construction, equipment, professional fees.

ADDITIONAL CONSTRAINTS

- Must be for the purchase of a renewable energy system or energy efficiency improvement.
- Pre-commercial or commercially available and replicable technology.
- Located in a rural area
- Applicant must be owner of system & control revenue & expense, incl. O&M
- Sites must be controlled by applicant
- Satisfactory sources of revenue

APPLICATION

- Applications must be complete and submitted by the appropriate deadline. Separate applications must be submitted for grant/guarantee combinations.
- RD Instruction 4280-B outlines the application requirements in addition to instructions in the NOSA. These instructions can be found in the website at:
www.rurdev.usda.gov/rbs/farmbill/what_is.html

USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)

- Provides technical and financial assistance for this purpose through the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP).
- On-Farm Energy Audit/Implementation Initiative .
- Application deadlines may be no later than February 25, 2011.
- Audits must comply with American Society of Agricultural and Biological Engineers (ASABE) ANSI/ASABE S612

Preparing for a Grain Dryer Energy Audit

- Number of bushels of grain dried and moisture content. Two years.
- LP gas records. Two years. Usage dedicated to grain drying?
- Diesel fuel for tractors operating augers. May have to estimate usage.
- Electrical usage.

Grain Dryer Energy Audit

- Obtain binding quotes for all construction activities. Bins, fans, dryers, grain legs. Dump pits.
- Engineering, staking, mobilization.
- Excavation.
- Concrete.
- Electrical (may need three phase)
- Equipment purchase, delivery, assembly , erection, crane.
- Obtain financing.
- Consider a grant writer to help with forms.

GRAIN DRYER GRANT APPLICATION

- FOLLOW TEMPLATES ON USDA MINNESOTA WEB SITE.
- CHECK SCORING.
- Furnish DUNS number.

Thank You!

Questions? Comments? Feel free to
contact me.

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