

# Fact Sheet

## **American Reinvestment and Recovery Act (ARRA) Overview: North Carolina**

### **DOE Recovery Act Spending for NC:**

Weatherization: \$131,954,536

State Energy Program: \$75,989,000

EECBG Program: \$58,050,300

Total: \$265,993,836

### **1. State Energy Program (SEP) Components of ARRA of 2009**

- \$30.4 million awarded to date
- After demonstrating successful implementation of its plan, the state will receive \$38 million in additional funding, for a total of \$76 million

### **Six focus areas for Recovery Act Funding:**

(from presentation of Larry Shirley, Director of State Energy Office, June 4, 2009)

- **Support small business and industry through energy savings (\$11.5 million)**
  - Identify and implement energy saving measures in small business and industry
  - Target "Main Street" communities
  - Commercial renewable energy system grants
  - Nonprofit energy management program
- **Grow North Carolina's green workforce- (\$8.85 million)**
  - Continuing education for building code inspectors
  - Workforce Development Initiative: Renewable energy, energy efficiency and alternative fuels, technology training, using community colleges, the UNC system, high school and early college programs
- **Foster renewable energy technology and resource innovation (\$13.5 million)**
  - Alternative fuels and biofuels development (\$3.5 million): Partner with the NC Biofuels center and others to award competitive grants for promising biofuels and alternative fuels projects
  - NC Green Business Fund (\$10 million): Competitive grants for innovative energy projects
- **Improve energy efficiency in local and state government (\$9.5 million)**
  - Develop energy assessments and strategic energy plans
  - Identify new projects: 270 energy projects at state agencies, universities and community colleges can be deployed immediately
  - Seek more proposals from public schools, local governments, and state agencies
- **Promote residential energy efficiency and renewable energy (\$10 million)**
  - Promote energy efficiency in new affordable housing (\$3 million): "Energy Star" manufactured homes, new affordable housing units

# Fact Sheet

- Energy Audits and implementation for existing homes (\$7 million): matching funds and other incentives to owners of existing homes for energy audits and implementation of efficiency and renewable energy measures
- **Create an Energy Investment Revolving Loan Fund (\$18 million)**
  - Low and/or no interest loans to support energy efficiency and renewable energy projects
  - Eligible parties include small businesses, industry, non-profits, local government, public schools, community colleges, and state agencies and universities
  - Up to \$1 million with terms up to 20 years

## **Block Grant Awards: \$58 million**

- Through the federal Recovery Act, \$58.3 million has been designated for Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grants for local and state agencies in North Carolina with \$37.4 million designated to 32 of the state's larger cities and counties and the Cherokee Indian reservation. The remaining \$20.9 million will be distributed by the State Energy Office to the state's smaller communities and other state and local agencies on a competitive basis.
- **Use of Funds**
  - Provide grants to nonprofits and government agencies for energy efficiency renovations
  - Implement energy efficiency programs for buildings within the appropriate jurisdiction
  - Implement programs to conserve energy used in transportation
  - Develop building code and inspection services that promote energy efficiency
  - Conduct residential and commercial energy audits
  - Establish financial incentive programs for energy efficiency improvements
  - Special consideration for projects that promote and enhance the objectives of the Recovery Act, especially job creation, preservation, and economic recovery, in an expeditious manner.

## **Weatherization: \$132 million**

- North Carolina is also receiving \$132 million in federal weatherization funds through the Recovery Act to expand efforts to assist low-income homeowners with energy-efficient upgrades to their houses.

## **Other Info:**

- The North Carolina State Energy Office will conduct a series of free workshops around the state to assist local government and public school officials gain access to more than \$58.3 million in federal Recovery Act funds to create jobs and conserve energy. The focus audience includes those with local governments, public school systems, community colleges, public universities and state agencies.