



## BCSE America Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) Activity Update Week of March 30, 2009

In this the third report on ARRA program implementation activity, the Council is providing news on the latest administration announcement on funding for the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant program, a summary of renewable energy programs funding by the Act, California state activity, and helpful links and program implementation guidance issued to date.

### 1. Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant Funded at \$3.2 Billion

Last week, the administration announced plans to invest \$3.2 billion in energy efficiency and conservation projects in U.S. cities, counties, states, territories, and Native American tribes. Funds will be available on a formula basis for projects that reduce total energy use and fossil fuel emissions, and improve energy efficiency nationwide. Programs eligible for the funds include energy audits and energy efficiency retrofits in residential and commercial buildings, the development and implementation of advanced building codes and inspections, and the creation of financial incentive programs for energy efficiency improvements.

For more information on the program guidance, state allocations and other materials, please go to the following links provided by the U.S. Department of Energy:

#### *General News*

<http://www.energy.gov/news2009/7101.htm>

<http://www.eecbg.energy.gov/>

#### *Funding Allocation Tables and Frequently Asked Questions*

<http://www.eere.energy.gov/wip/>

### 2. ARRA Renewable Energy Provisions

In addition to significant funds directed at energy efficiency and conservation programs through existing and newly created initiatives, ARRA included provisions benefitting increased renewable energy activity and development. The Council is awaiting guidance from the Treasury Department and the Department of Energy on how the programs within their jurisdictions will be implemented. Below is a listing of the ARRA renewable energy provisions:

- **Treasury Department grants for renewable energy developers**
- **Investment Tax Credit (ITC) election option for renewable energy** - Gives wind, biomass and geothermal access to Treasury grant in lieu of ITC (grant not available in lieu of PTC)
- **Extension of the Production Tax Credit (PTC)** - Increases long-term policy certainty for wind, biomass, geothermal, hydropower and LFG segments
- **Advanced Energy Manufacturing ITC** - 30% tax credit (up to \$2.3 billion) for investments in qualifying advanced energy manufacturing
- **Department of Energy Loan Guarantees for Renewable Energy** – Additional \$6 billion of appropriations expected to support at least \$60 billion of loans
- **Extension of bonus depreciation** - Extends 2008 incentive to spur capital investments to the end of 2009



- **Expansion of Department of Energy research, development and deployment funding**

### 3. State Activities

Attached is a summary of California's planned activities for State Energy Program Recovery Act funds .

### 4. Helpful Links

American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, official text:

[http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-in/getdoc.cgi?dbname=111\\_cong\\_bills&docid=f:h1enr.pdf](http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-in/getdoc.cgi?dbname=111_cong_bills&docid=f:h1enr.pdf)

House Speaker's summary: <http://www.speaker.gov/newsroom/legislation?id=0273>

National Conference of State Legislatures' summary:

<http://74.125.47.132/search?q=cache:x75TrJzEWXcJ:www.ncsl.org/statefed/2009economicstimulus.htm+stimulus+ARRA+summary&cd=7&hl=en&ct=clnk&gl=us>

Associated General Contractors' summary:

[http://www.agc.org/cs/rebuild\\_america\\_future](http://www.agc.org/cs/rebuild_america_future)

### 5. Guidances Issued To Date:

DOE Guidance (Full Text):

- [DOE SEP Grant Guidelines for ARRA](#) (500 kB .doc)
- [DOE WAP Grant Guidelines for ARRA](#) (500 kB .doc)
- [DOE EECBG Program Guidelines for ARRA](#) (500 kB .doc)

Grantee Allocations:

- [Weatherization Assistance Program: Stimulus Grantee Allocations: \\$5 Billion Total](#)
- [State Energy Program: Stimulus Grantee Allocations: \\$3.1 Billion Total](#)
- [Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant Program: \\$3.2 Billion Total](#)