

EPA's Climate and Energy Technical Forum

State and Local Climate and Energy Economic Recovery Resources

April 15, 2009

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA 2009) was signed into law by President Barack Obama on February 17, 2009. ARRA is a wide-ranging effort to jumpstart the weakened economy and to lay the groundwork for developing an economy that will be able to meet the challenges of the 21st century through investments in infrastructure, energy, education, and tax incentives. If successful, ARRA could create up to 3.5 million jobs by the end of 2010. The ARRA includes a large number of funding opportunities and tax incentives to support investment in clean energy at the state and local levels. These incentives are designed to strengthen the economy and to promote clean and renewable energy.

ARRA will directly foster improved energy efficiency and increased production and use of renewable energy sources through grants and loans for specific projects and indirectly through tax incentives. Direct funding opportunities include grants for weatherization and energy improvements for affordable housing projects; schools; local government operations; water quality protection programs; and research and job training to prepare workers for careers in renewable energy and energy efficiency industries. Tax incentives in ARRA that are relevant to state and local governments include expansions of pre-existing tax credits for installation of renewable energy generation and related utility installation; an entirely new tax credit for facilities that invest in, rather than produce, renewable energy sources; and expansion of a credit for installing alternative fuel pumps. These and other programs are detailed below. For more information on ARRA's purpose, funding details, and the cost to taxpayers, visit www.recovery.gov. The bill, in its entirety, is available at http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/getdoc.cgi?dbname=111_cong_bills&docid=f:h1enr.pdf.

EPA has developed numerous resources that can assist state and local governments as they work to ramp up existing clean energy programs and create new ones. All of these are accessible on <http://www.epa.gov/cleanenergy/energy-programs/state-and-local/recovery.html> and include:

ARRA 2009: State and Local Guide to U.S. EPA Climate and Energy Program Resources (http://epa.gov/cleanenergy/documents/slb_guide_to_program_resources.pdf)

This guide is designed to help state and local governments see which EPA programs can be leveraged to expand or develop clean energy initiatives in their locality. It includes short summaries of resources offered by EPA climate and energy partnership programs. Each program description includes:

- Basic information and contact details;
- Potential target audiences;
- Highlights of ready-to-go tools and resources; and
- Suggestions of possible actions a state or local government could take to leverage EPA's offerings.

A table also summarizes which programs can be used to develop initiatives in six categories—buildings; industry; electric power and renewable energy; transportation; energy education; and policy, planning, and energy security.

[American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009: A Guide to Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Opportunities for Local and Tribal Governments](http://epa.gov/cleanenergy/documents/local_guide_to_arra.pdf) (http://epa.gov/cleanenergy/documents/local_guide_to_arra.pdf)

This guide provides an overview of funding sources in ARRA that local and tribal governments can use to implement clean energy programs along with brief descriptions of EPA resources that can support clean energy efforts. The guide covers funding and resources for clean energy in water treatment facilities, schools, affordable housing and transportation, as well as green jobs.

[Webcast: Using EPA Resources to Maximize Clean Energy in Economic Recovery Spending](http://epa.gov/cleanenergy/energy-programs/state-and-local/webcast.html) (<http://epa.gov/cleanenergy/energy-programs/state-and-local/webcast.html>)

This webcast, recorded on March 5, 2009, features a summary of available ARRA funds and corresponding EPA resources. It also includes an overview of the U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE's) Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grants, an overview of clean energy opportunities in EPA's Clean Water State Revolving Funds, and a question-and-answer session with EPA staff.

[Rapid Deployment Energy Efficiency \(RDEE\) Toolkit](http://epa.gov/cleanenergy/energy-resources/ee_toolkit.html) (http://epa.gov/cleanenergy/energy-resources/ee_toolkit.html)

This toolkit provides detailed program design and implementation guides for five to ten broadly applicable energy efficiency programs that have extensive, proven field experience with documentation on program design, program costs, and results. The toolkit is being developed through a joint effort of EPA and the U.S. Department of Energy, building upon technical information provided by the Leadership Group of the National Action Plan on Energy Efficiency.

[Federal Tax Credits for Energy Efficiency Products](http://www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?c=products.pr_tax_credits) (http://www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?c=products.pr_tax_credits)

Located on the ENERGY STAR website, this page includes information about how ARRA 2009 affected the tax credits for energy efficient home improvements.

[ENERGY STAR Webcasts](http://www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?c=business.bus_internet_presentations) (http://www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?c=business.bus_internet_presentations)

EPA's ENERGY STAR team offers a series of Web trainings that can help state agencies, local governments, and energy efficiency program administrators leverage ENERGY STAR tools to get the most out of stimulus funding. Recent Web trainings have included:

- Energy Efficiency Stimulus Funding Technical Assistance - Plan, Monitor, and Report Results with ENERGY STAR Tools;
- Southeast Rebuild Collaborative: The Economic Stimulus Plan of 2009 (H.R. 1): A road map for State and Local Governments;
- Maximizing Stimulus Funding with Performance Contracting and ENERGY STAR; and
- Benchmarking K-12 Schools with ENERGY STAR.

Look under “Upcoming Events” for new opportunities to participate.

RESOURCE GUIDE

EPA Tools and Resources – ARRA 2009

ARRA 2009: A Guide to Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Opportunities for Local and Tribal Governments	http://epa.gov/cleanenergy/documents/local_guide_to_arra.pdf
Webcast: Using EPA Resources to Maximize Clean Energy in Economic Recovery Spending	http://www.epa.gov/cleanenergy/energy-programs/state-and-local/webcast.html
Federal Tax Credits for Energy Efficiency Products (updated to include ARRA 2009 provisions)	http://www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?c=products.pr_tax_credits
Rapid Deployment Energy Efficiency (RDEE) Toolkit (in development)	http://www.epa.gov/cleanenergy/energy-resources/ee_toolkit.html
ENERGY STAR Webcasts	http://www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?c=business.bus_internet_presentations
EPA Recovery Web site (including an overview of the Act and programs to assist with implementation)	http://www.epa.gov/recovery/
EPA Clean Water and Drinking Water State Revolving Fund	http://www.epa.gov/water/eparecovery/
EPA National Clean Diesel Campaign	http://www.epa.gov/otaq/eparecovery/index.htm

Other Federal Resources	
Department of Energy (DOE) State Energy Program Guidance	http://www.grants.gov/search/search.do;jsessionid=hp7KJ5mTTv6NwG1LKJVV10KP2N8BbBXC0RyWP3PjKl1Qv10F1yFs!1057178580?oppId=45986&flag2006=false&mode=VIEW
DOE Weatherization Assistance Program Guidance	http://www.grants.gov/search/search.do?mode=VIEW&flag2006=false&oppId=45988
DOE Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grants	http://apps1.eere.energy.gov/wip/block_grants.cfm?
Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Recovery Web site	http://www.hud.gov/recovery/
Related Links	
Apollo Alliance website: Recovery Act Information Center: What You Need To Know	http://apolloalliance.org/new-apollo-program/data-points-nap/recovery-act-information-center-what-you-need-to-know/
Congressional Research Service Energy Provisions in ARRA 2009 (P.L. 111-5)	http://www.aceee.org/energy/state/CRS_Energy_ARRA.pdf
For State Governments:	
National Association of State Energy Offices (NASEO) Energy Program Best Practices: Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Programs for Potential Stimulus Implementation	http://www.naseo.org/members/programs/default.aspx
National Governors Association ARRA 2009 Resource Center	http://www.nga.org/portal/site/nga/menuitem.751b186f65e10b568a278110501010a0/?vgnextoid=b4d8cccc579cf110VgnVCM1000005e00100aRCRD&vgnnextchannel=92ebc7df618a2010VgnVCM1000001a01010aRCRD
American Council for an Energy Efficient Economy: Federal Economic Stimulus Legislation	http://www.aceee.org/energy/national/fedeconomicstimulus.htm
For Local and Tribal Governments:	
ICLEI Local Governments for Sustainability Economic Recovery Funding Updates	http://www.icleiusa.org/action-center/financing-staffing/stimulus-funding-updates

U.S. Conference of Mayors MainStreet Economic Recovery - Tracking and Implementation Assistance for ARRA 2009	http://www.usmayors.org/recovery/
Climate Communities	http://climatecommunities.us/
National Congress of American Indians ARRA Information Center	http://www.indiancountryworks.org/
National Association of Regional Councils Stimulus Updates	http://narc.org/news/218/292.html