

# Clean Energy Opportunities in Recovery Funding

Webcast Transcript

March 5, 2009

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## Introduction

Slide 1: Using EPA Resources to Maximize Clean Energy Opportunities in Recovery Funding

Operator: Ladies and gentlemen, thank you for standing by. Welcome to the U.S. EPA “Using EPA resources to maximize clean energy in economic recovery spending” conference call. During the presentation, all the participants will be in a listen-only mode. If at any time during the conference you need to reach an operator please press star zero. I would now like to turn the conference over to Andrea Denny, please go ahead, madam.

Andrea Denny: Thank you, and thank you everyone for joining us and welcome to today’s webcast. We have an extremely full agenda so I am going to dive right in.

Slide 2: Webcast Agenda

Andrea Denny: Just to give you an idea of what we’re going to talk about, I am going to give a quick introduction and overview of both LiveMeeting and the local climate and energy program at EPA. Then I and my colleague Neelam Patel are going to give an overview of different EPA resources that can support clean energy in the different funding amounts that are available through the stimulus bill. We have some speakers from the U.S. Department of Energy who will be giving an overview of the energy efficiency and conservation block grants. Then we’re going to have three speakers from EPA talking about clean energy opportunities in water and wastewater treatments.

Slide 3: Participating Federal Staff for Q&A

Andrea Denny: And finally we will have a Q&A session with a number of federal officials; you can see the full list of those participants on this slide and we will put this slide back up when we do the Q&A so you know who is on the line. You’re going to have access to quite a number of different experts and we hope that you’ll take full advantage of that. Just a few LiveMeeting logistics: you will all be muted, as the operator said, in order to minimize background noise; you will be able to submit questions and comments in writing, and I will show you how to do that in just a moment. You can use F5 to toggle between a full screen and a LiveMeeting console screen. Today’s session is being recording, and we will make it available on our website, hopefully within about a week. And throughout the webcast you can contact Nikhil Nadkarni at the email address and phone number shown on your screen or you can contact “LiveMeeting Host.”

Slide 4: Asking Questions

Andrea Denny: To ask a question, you can use the Question Manager, and you can see on this screen shot that it is in the upper menu labeled Q&A, and then you can click “ask a question” and type your question in. You can ask your question at any time during the call, you do not need to wait until the Q&A session begins. If possible, if you could begin

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your question with an indication of who it is aimed at or what the topic is, that would just be helpful for us to sort those questions. For example, if you had a question for our representatives from the Department of Energy, you could start your question with “for DOE” and then ask your question.

### Slide 5: Download Handouts

Andrea Denny: We do have a number of handouts loaded up, and these were sent out to you in an email, but sometimes those large attachments get caught by spam filters so if you didn't receive those you can download them now, they will also be posted on our website within about a week. There's also some additional handouts, including the State Revolving Fund Guidance that just came out that was not mailed out, but you can access it from the EPA website or from the handout folder. If you click on the icons in the top right of your screen, there is one that is for handouts and that will bring up a list of all the handouts that are there that you can download.

### Slide 6: Local Climate and Energy Program

Andrea Denny: And now I just want to spend a few minutes highlighting the Local Climate and Energy Program here at EPA. This program is the one hosting this webcast. We are an informational and peer exchange network. We work to advance climate and clean energy programs in local governments and our communities, we focus on cost-effective best practices, we try to serve as a bridge to other EPA programs and resources as well as other federal programs and resources, we also develop new tools and guidance and resources where we seek out and we work to facilitate peer exchange and showcase success stories. And you can see our website there, if you would like to visit our site, there is a lot of information on that site.

### Slide 7: Local Clean Energy Strategies Guide

Andrea Denny: One of our primary resources is a local clean energy strategies guide. This guide is in development. There are 6 chapters currently available; you can see the list there on the screen. We have 3 more chapters that will be coming out this month and then we have about another 6 chapters that will be coming out through the end of the year.

### Slide 8: Webcasts and Training

Andrea Denny: We also host webcasts. For example this webcast, which was a special topic. Next month we will resume our monthly webcast series, where we take a chapter from our clean energy strategies guide and have presentations related to that topic. We usually have one EPA speaker as well as local government speakers. Next month we are planning to do a call on affordable housing and energy efficiency. We haven't set the date for that call yet; you can visit our webcast site for more information. I also wanted to let you know that the ENERGY STAR program also holds training webcasts. They have one next week, which is kind of a follow-up to this call, about using ENERGY STAR tools

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specifically to make the most of energy efficiency in the stimulus funding. At the moment this call has reached capacity, but it will be recorded and there is the possibility that they may offer repeat trainings. And their website is there so you can see the full range of trainings that they offer.

### Slide 9: Climate and Energy Contacts

Andrea Denny: And this is the contact information for the Climate and Energy Program. You can contact me or my colleague Neelam. There's our website. We also have a listserv, and that is where we announce trainings like this as well as funding opportunities and other information for state and local governments. If you are not already on that listserv I do encourage you to sign up for it.

## **Overview of EPA Resources to Support Clean Energy Investments**

Slide 9: Using EPA Resources to Maximize Clean Energy Opportunities in Recovery Funding

Andrea Denny: And so with that background out of the way, we are going to get to the part that you have all actually signed on to hear about.

Slide 10: Outline of Clean Energy Opportunities in ARRA

Andrea Denny: Neelam and I are going to go through a number of different clean energy opportunities in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. We are going to start by just outlining some general resources related to the act. Then we are going to talk about green jobs, affordable housing, schools, transportation, energy and water treatment, and more general energy programs. For each program we will very briefly describe the funding that is available and some of the EPA resources that can be used to evaluate projects and track progress, and the impacts on the environment and jobs. Ideally, the funding that you are getting through the recovery bill will be a down payment on creating sustainable long-term energy and climate programs that lead to long-term employment. Some of the money we are going to talk about is specifically set aside for energy or environmental improvements, and some money is not, but we do encourage you to consider the energy implications of your stimulus activity and to try to build in a way which will save you money and energy in the long term.

Slide 11: General Resources

Andrea Denny: So, some general resources. Basically, this slide is intended to be a resource for you after the call. It has links to the nationwide recovery website as well as the different recovery websites that the federal agencies have set up. You should definitely consult each agency, because they are the authority of what the stimulus money can and cannot be spent on. So before you necessarily just take our advice and assume that something we say is absolutely correct, you should always check with the guidance that is being issued. A lot of this guidance is still not published or is in flux. So you should always check with them to be sure. We have also issued a white paper called the Guide to Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Opportunities for Local and Tribal Governments. It was emailed to all the registrants, it's also in the handout section of this LiveMeeting call and it will be posted on our website; it basically has all the information that's in these slides, but it goes into more detail than we could fit on the slides.

Slide 12: Green Job Funding and Resources

Andrea Denny: So on green jobs, there is almost \$4 billion available for the Department of Labor for the Workforce Investment Act. A portion of that money, about half a billion dollars, is specifically set aside for green jobs—which includes preparing workers for

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careers in energy efficiency and renewable energy—but that larger amount, the \$4 billion, could potentially be used for green job development if the recipients choose to. And we really feel that encouraging the development of a workforce that is trained to design and install and maintain clean energy technology is the first step in being able to implement a strong clean energy program in your community. Recently, EPA held a state technical forum call on the topic of green workforce development and there were a lot of good resources. You can find them at the website listed, there is a background paper, there's resource lists and different case study lists of state and local green job programs.

### Slide 13: Affordable Housing – Funding

Andrea Denny: On affordable housing, there's a number of different resources. I am not going to go into all of them in detail, but they all have different eligibility and they are all administered a little bit differently, but they do offer a lot of opportunities to improve the efficiency of housing stock in your community. There's the weatherization assistance program run through DOE and then there's a number of programs that will be run by the Department of Housing and Urban Development. A number of these programs have specific set-asides for energy efficiency or green improvements or requirements that modernization must be efficient.

### Slide 14: Affordable Housing – Key Resources

Andrea Denny: To help out with implementing and improving the efficiency of affordable housing, EPA's ENERGY STAR program has an affordable housing resource center. They offer stakeholders proven solutions on how to increase efficiency for low-income households and for public housing. The material is targeted towards housing agencies, state and local governments, housing authorities, and other people who are involved with the development and maintenance of affordable housing. They have a lot of different tools and resources, including Portfolio Manager, which was just modified to include multi-family housing; a lot of affordable housing falls into that category. And you can get to the affordable housing resource center by clicking on the link in the URL. The Climate and Energy Local Program has a chapter that's available on our website on affordable housing, and we hope to be doing a webcast next month on the topic of affordable housing, including case studies. And another thing I should add is that while the money that we were just talking about is targeted specifically to low-income housing and affordable housing, a lot of the lessons learned by working on that type of housing can be applied more broadly in your community, and we would encourage you to take those lessons and those messages and take those out broadly into your community.

### Slide 15: Schools – Funding

Andrea Denny: On schools, there is some money in the stimulus bill for state fiscal stabilization funds, and a portion of that money can be used at the state's discretion for modernization, renovation, or repair of public school facilities and higher education facilities. So there is a total of \$53.6 billion going to this fund, and a portion of that can be used for energy efficiency. There are also a number of tax credits and bonds that can

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be used to fund school construction, rehabilitation, modernization, repair, etc. And, as you are pursuing new schools, even though these bond monies are not specifically designated towards energy efficiency, it is important to consider the energy use of your new construction as you are building—because if you build an efficient school it will keep your costs down and make for a more sustainable cost and school infrastructure.

### Slide 16: Key EPA Resources

Andrea Denny: We have a lot of resources for schools. Specifically there's an ENERGY STAR program for K-12 schools. It is really important to partner with ENERGY STAR. An ENERGY STAR labeled school can cost 40 cents less per square foot to operate than an average school, so there is a significant cost savings, they have a tremendous number of tools, case studies, educational materials for schools, there are also materials for students, so that—as well as improving your school's energy use—you can also educate students about energy issues. There's a chapter in this Local Climate and Energy Program guide on energy efficiency in K-12 schools that will be coming out later this month, and our EPA Smart Growth office also has resources, specifically on school siting, which, if you are you looking at construction of new schools in your community, where you site your school can have a big impact on transportation energy use and other energy issues. And with that, I am going to turn the rest of the presentation over to Neelam Patel.

### Slide 17: Transportation – Funding

Neelam Patel: Thank you Andrea. I'd like to start off by covering the transportation clean energy opportunities in ARRA 2009. There's several programs that are receiving money between DOT, DOE, and EPA. I'll start off with the program that EPA administers, the Diesel Emissions Reduction Act Grants (DERA). And during the Q&A, I would like to mention that Jennifer Keller from our Office of Transportation and Air Quality will be available to answer specific questions on this topic. DERA basically provides grant funding to regional, local, state, and tribal governments to reduce emissions in existing fleets, which can reduce vessels, freights, school buses, construction equipment. The DERA guidance has been rescheduled to be released in mid-March, and so at that time you can expect more information on how to apply for this program. In DERA, 70% of the funding will go toward competitive grants and 30% will go to states, which states will release for state grant programs. The DOE's Clean Cities program, also known as the Alternative Fuel Vehicles Pilot Grant Program, will be establishing grants with money from ARRA and they will be committing \$3 million to this. The DOT has a program, Capital Transit Assistance, this is basically targeted to public transit authorities and will be giving \$6.9 billion to public transit authorities. And lastly there is another program going to DOT that's focusing on national surface transportation, and that will receive \$1.5 billion which is for state and local governments or transit authorities.

### Slide 18: Transportation – EPA Resources

Neelam Patel: In terms of EPA resources to support the transportation programs, we do have a National Clean Diesel Campaign, which has, as you can see, there are several

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resources listed; I would like to highlight two: The State and Local Clean Diesel Toolkit, which helps you develop programs, and then for those people that are granted funds through the DERA, the program provides a key tool, a calculator to help report results, it is called the Diesel Emission Quantifier (DEQ) and it is very user-friendly. The Office of Transportation and Air Quality also provides additional resources; they have a site with tools specifically for state and local programs. And lastly our program, the Local Climate and Energy Program, will be releasing the efficient fleets guide in the upcoming 2 months and in the near future we will also have a guide for local governments on transportation control measures.

### Slide 19: Energy in Water Treatment – Funding

Neelam Patel: The next area I'd like to cover is energy and water treatment, the funding. We actually have with us in the room experts from our clean water state revolving fund, Stephanie von Feck, and our drinking water state revolving fund, Howard Rubin. So I won't spend too much time on this but I do want to emphasize that 20% of all the funding going into the state revolving fund is intended for green projects and this is a great area where you can integrate energy efficiency into your projects. After we have presentations from Stephanie and Howard, Katy Hatcher from the ENERGY STAR program will be talking about a benchmarking tool for water and wastewater facilities called Portfolio Manager, which, as you heard Andrea mention, can also be used for other types of buildings. The last program on the slide, the rural water and wastewater disposal program account, really provides capital for rural programs to improve the quality of the community. Under a USDA act, the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act, there is specific money designated for wastewater and water programs. Municipalities, counties, associations, NGOs, and tribes can apply for this money.

### Slide 20: Energy in Water Treatment – Resources

Neelam Patel: So again, we have our EPA water folks in the room. I do want to point out that all of the information on this slide, the different resources that are listed, are also available at the EPA Recovery site. It's located at [www.epa.gov/recovery](http://www.epa.gov/recovery) and when you go to the state revolving fund, this information and additional guidance documents are available to help implement your programs.

### Slide 21: Energy – Funding

Neelam Patel: In terms of energy funding, one of the big programs going to local governments is the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grants. We have our friends from DOE, Mark Bailey and group with us to present on this particular topic so I will let them explain in more detail. Here we also have receiving money through the state energy program, and this money is going to states that will then be dispersed through the state energy offices. This money is intended for building retrofits, adopting energy efficiency building codes, and implementing transportation measures. \$3.4 billion will be available. The last energy funding program is similar to the one I mentioned earlier under water, it's the Rural Community Facilities Program account, this actually has 2 separate

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funding accounts, and so not only can you use money from one account for water and wastewater treatment, but you also can use this money to construct and improve community facilities and healthcare, public safety, and other public services in the rural areas.

### Slide 22: Energy – Funding

Neelam Patel: For energy funding there are also a lot of different tax programs available. The first one that is mentioned here, Clean Renewable Energy Bonds, these are bonds to fund capital projects for different renewable energy facilities, wind, geothermal, hydropower, landfill gas, waste to energy, and bioenergy, and today in the room we actually have Victoria Ludwig and Rachel Goldstein from our Landfill Methane Outreach Program who can talk more about this. Another funding opportunity or tax credit bond is the Energy Conservation Bonds, which will receive \$2.4 billion in bonds through ARRA, and lastly there's the Renewable Energy Production or Investment Tax Credits; basically these entities allow you to choose between a 1.9 cent per kilowatt benefit for the first 10 years of operation or a 30% investment credit for your project.

### Slide 23: Energy – Key Resources

Neelam Patel: So, some of the resources that we have at EPA that can help support some of these programs that we've just run through include the resources that we offer through the Local Climate and Energy Program that Andrea mentioned at the beginning, the ENERGY STAR Tools for Local Governments and other programs they have, which we'll have Katy and Leslie during the Q&A to provide more information on. Some other programs that we will think are effective in implementing some of the funding coming through ARRA include our Smart Growth program, which has resources that are available; and also for any green infrastructure concepts, the Heat Island Program offers different mitigation strategies. One of the things we'd like to highlight is the Climate and Energy Lead By Example Guide. This guide will be released soon and it provides information on how to create projects at the government level that then can be demonstrated for other constituents in your communities. So, with that I'd like to introduce Leslie Cook to talk about many of the resources that we've outlined in the ENERGY STAR program. She'll describe the ENERGY STAR program as a platform for implementing and spending the money that is coming through ARRA.

### Slide 23: Webcasts and Training

Leslie Cook: Great, thanks Neelam. Hi everyone and thanks for joining us. I had a peek at the registration list and I know that there are some of our partners out there listening, so hello. I'll briefly just cover what ENERGY STAR for Buildings is, for those of you who may be new to the program, and outline a few of our resources and tools that you may be able to use to leverage some funds that you're getting through the stimulus package for energy efficiency projects for your own buildings and in your community. And then I'll focus more in on how you can use Portfolio Manager to really dig deep and identify those vast opportunities to find those energy efficiency projects in your building

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stock, measure your progress over time so that you know you are getting those results you need, and then also how you can verify those results.

So first, ENERGY STAR for Buildings is a U.S. Environmental Protection Agency program and we are in existence to protect the climate through reduced greenhouse gas emissions through energy efficiency. It also helps that you all save a lot of money along the way. And we do work in a variety of markets, of course with local and state governments; federal agencies; as well as programs for commercial properties, healthcare, small businesses, congregations, schools, higher education, and wastewater and water utilities. And Katy will talk a bit more about that piece.

As an overview of our resources, we offer tools to benchmark and track energy performance in buildings and I will talk more about that in a minute here, but keep in mind that we also have our broader program that you can leverage for your entire energy management platform, including things like guidelines for energy management, we offer a number of case studies and best practices from our partners that highlight ways that you can save energy in a cost effective way, we have calculators to track those cost-effective returns on efficiency investments, and we also offer live and recorded trainings like the one you are listening now, and also we do focus a lot on communications. We think it's important to not only do the technical work to save energy in your buildings, but make sure you are communicating your successes not only for your own buildings but so you can leverage your abilities to promote it throughout the community. And we also provide assistance for architects and design teams for new commercial buildings. So, just an overview, we have over 2,400 partners that are operating more than 14 billion square feet of space, and that includes about 5,000 small businesses and congregations, 120 utility and energy efficiency program sponsors, and just keep that in mind as you hopefully join with ENERGY STAR as a partner: there is a huge network of other ENERGY STAR partners in your communities throughout those programs that you can work with.

So, to jump back into Portfolio Manager for your stimulus projects: Portfolio Manager—and hopefully some of you are using the tool already to benchmark in your housing stock—there are currently over 80,000 buildings that are being benchmarked in Portfolio Manager; it's at [www.energystar.gov/benchmark](http://www.energystar.gov/benchmark) and I am sure that that has been on one of the slides here that we'll be sending out or that you may already have. It's a free tool, everything that I am mentioning right now is free and you can access it online. And what you do is input your utility bills for all your buildings so that you can track your energy use and greenhouse gas emissions, as well as your water use, in your existing buildings. We see this as a way that you can prioritize your investments for capital improvements to really get the most bang out of your stimulus bucks and make sure that you are investing in the buildings that need it the most. So, after you get all your utility bills through the Portfolio Manager in the online interface, we provide you with training on how to go through that process and how to continually benchmark and manage your energy use through Portfolio Manager. You can compare cost savings across buildings, calculate savings for specific projects, and we think especially for these stimulus projects it's really important to use Portfolio Manager to establish your baselines so that you know where you are starting from in terms of your energy performance. Use that baseline to set your

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performance goals, and then also use Portfolio Manager to measure your improvement over the baseline, which is really what we're all after using these stimulus funds for your buildings projects.

Using Portfolio Manager, next, you can use it to closely monitor your progress over time throughout the project in your buildings. Like I said, you can set the baseline to monitor that progress over time, and that is in terms of not only energy use, so you'll be looking at your energy use intensity, some buildings will be able to receive the EPA Performance Rating of 1 through 100, but you will also be able to monitor those reductions in greenhouse gas emissions as well as your energy costs. So it's a great way to track those multiple performance metrics in a very user-friendly way.

And then, lastly, as you're looking to verify these savings results, we think that Portfolio Manager can provide a good level of transparency and accountability to help you demonstrate that you have leveraged these stimulus dollars in your buildings to achieve real savings. You can accurately demonstrate the savings for not only your individual buildings but we hope that you can use this opportunity to benchmark your whole portfolio and look at it portfolio-wide. You'll be able to download all those performance metrics into Excel and you can also generate something we call a Statement of Energy Performance, which is a nice PDF document that you can use as your receipt to show that over a certain period of time you've made some improvements in your performance. And also, coming soon, stay tuned for more enhanced reporting capabilities through Portfolio Manager that you'll be able to do some fun things with in getting all the data out, and there will be some custom graphics capabilities as well. So with that I'd like to turn it back over to Neelam and like they said, we are offering that session, we'll go into more detail than what I am covering now, that's next on Thursday the 12<sup>th</sup>, and we are close to capacity or over capacity so we'll make sure that the session that is recorded goes out to Andrea and Neelam's listserv and we will let you all know if we set a time to repeat the session. So thanks.

Jason Turgeon: Can I jump in? It's Jason, I'm just wondering if we are supposed to be seeing a different set of slides.

Leslie Cook: No.

Jason: Okay, there were a couple questions about that on the chat line.

Neelam Patel: Okay, Thank you, no, we did not have a separate set of slides. And I'd also like to encourage all the participants on the phone to submit questions as you think of them throughout the webcast, you don't have to necessarily have to wait until we begin the Q&A session. And as Andrea mentioned earlier, if you could just include the subject or the name of the person that you'd like to answer your question that would be very helpful during our Q&A session.

## **Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grants**

### Slide 24: Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant Program

Neelam Patel: With that said, I'd like to introduce Mark Bailey of the Department of Energy. Mr. Bailey is a supervisor team leader for the State and Local program in the Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy. His experience includes management of a wide range of energy research and deployment activities, including the State Energy Program, Renewable Energy Production Center Program, Clean Cities, NICE III, Innovations and Inventions, ENERGY STAR, Building Energy Codes, Energy Smart Schools, and the Rebuild America program. Mr. Bailey is also leading the team responsible for implementation of the new Energy Efficiency Block Grant program. So, Mr. Bailey has a lot of experience with a lot of the money coming in through the stimulus. With that I'd like to introduce Mark to provide an overview of the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grants.

Mark Bailey: Thank you for that introduction and I'm excited to be here today, and thanks to the EPA for sponsoring this webcast. I'm going to jump right in and I'm going to give you a quick overview on the Block Grant Program and leave plenty of time for questions afterwards. Before I get started though, I wanted to mention that we are sort of proud of the managers of the portfolio under the Recovery Act under the Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy at DOE. We are managing about \$11.6 billion in Recovery Act funds under four separate programs. The Weatherization program has received \$5 billion to weatherize low income homes, the State Energy program has \$3.1 billion in funding that will provide the state energy offices for work, for state and local, for renewables, and a wide variety of technology deployment. There's also a \$300 million appliance rebate program that will support state activities to provide rebates on highly efficient appliances, and the fourth program, which I am going to spend the time talking about today, is the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant Program. That program was appropriated at \$3.2 billion.

### Slide 25: Overview of Presentation

Mark Bailey: A quick overview of the presentation. I'm going to talk a little bit about the purpose of the program, the funding, the eligibility, the objectives that the department is trying to achieve, and what kind of metrics and reporting mechanisms, where we're headed next, and most importantly the application process for cities and counties across the country, and then provide you with sort of a calling card to find out more information as we proceed down the road.

### Slide 26: Purpose

Mark Bailey: The purpose of the program is to assist state, local, and tribal governments in implementing strategies to do three things: reducing fossil fuel emissions; reducing total energy use; and improving energy efficiency in the transportation, building, and

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other sectors. Clearly, balancing that with spurring economic growth and creating and/or retaining jobs.

### Slide 27: Appropriation

Mark Bailey: The appropriation, as I mentioned before, is at \$3.2 billion. \$2.8 billion of that money is to be spent as authorized in the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007. Of the \$2.8 billion, 28% of that money will go to states, 68% of that funding will go to large cities and counties and local governments, 2% to Indian tribes, and 2% in competitive grants to entities that are not eligible for direct funding from the Department. Of the 28% going to states, 60% of that money has to flow through to smaller cities and counties. And last but not least, there is a \$400 million pool for competitive grants that we'll be providing.

### Slide 28: Eligibility

Mark Bailey: Now let me talk a little bit about the eligibility for the formula grants. It includes all states, including the District of Columbia and the territories. It's for cities, and again, this is for funding that will come directly to the grantee, so you have states, and then cities with populations of 35,000 or more will get direct grants from the Department; or, if you are one of the top ten most populous cities in the state. Likewise with counties, counties with a population of 200,000 or more, or one of the top ten most populous counties in the state will receive direct grants from the Department. And the fourth eligible group is Indian tribes. All federally recognized tribes, 574 tribes, will receive direct funding from the Department.

### Slide 28: Eligibility – State Sub-Grants

Mark Bailey: Now, I mentioned that the states will get 28% of the funding. Sixty percent of that 28% will be passed through to cities and counties, and that's targeting the smaller cities and counties, so all cities under the population of 35,000 and all counties under the population of 200,000 will be eligible to get money through their state energy offices. Each individual state is required to give the department a plan on how they will provide the sub grants and how they will manage that process working with existing networks within the state.

### Slide 29: Eligible Activities for Use of Funds

Mark Bailey: This is a list of the eligible activities for the use of the funding. It includes such things as hiring consultant services to develop a strategy or a plan for the local government. It can fund audits for residential and commercial buildings, it can fund financial incentive programs, grants to nonprofit organizations and governmental officials, governmental agencies for retrofits, it can fund the startup money for a energy efficiency and conservation program, city-wide program, county-wide program, it's for the development and implementation of transportation programs as well, building codes, inspections, and enforcement. It can fund the development and use of energy distribution

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technologies, including distributed generation, combined heat and power, and/or district heating and cooling systems. It could support the development and implementation of material conservation programs, reduction and capture of methane and greenhouse gases programs, traffic signals, traffic lighting. It can fund the development of renewable technologies on public buildings. And the other thing is that there is sort of an open line item for any other appropriate activity that meets the purpose of the program, and that is something that will be an opportunity within your application, within your strategy to identify.

### Slide 30: Eligibility – DOE Competitive Grants

Mark Bailey: Let me say a quick thing about the DOE competitive grants. There are two pools of funding for competitive grants. One is the \$400 million that is applicable to all states, cities, counties and Indian tribes. There's a \$56 million competitive grant program that will be available for cities and counties and Indian tribes that are ineligible for direct forms of grants from the departments, and a key thing about the competitive grant programs that we will be very targeted and focused on promoting market transformation, innovation, high leveraging of these program dollars, and really putting into place sustainable program efforts that can pay long-term dividends and are not just focused on providing capital dollars for immediate renovation.

### Slide 31: DOE Objectives

Mark Bailey: The DOE objectives for—and really this applies to the entire program and the first bullet here is really key—clearly the funding is part of the recovery act to really stimulate the economy. But what we are really trying to do and accomplish is invest funds for economic stimulus now, while meeting our long-term energy goals. That's a critical balance, that cities, states, local governments will—we will be encouraging you and helping you achieve. We want to create comprehensive energy strategies that benchmark current performance and set long-term goals. And then make sure that the projects and programs fit in to your long-term goals. We want to develop programs and projects that persist beyond the dollar, beyond the expenditure of the grant and the immediate funding. We want to leverage funds with public and private sources and we want to coordinate at regional levels.

### Slide 32: Next Steps for DOE

Mark Bailey: The next steps for us are that soon we will be releasing our program guidance; along with that will be a funding opportunity announcement coming out of our project management center. By law we are required to publish the allocation formula and allocation amounts in the Federal Register, that will follow the program guidance. And then awarding formula grants both directly to cities and counties and to states, and following the initiation of getting these formula grants moving we will be announcing these competitive solicitations.

### Slide 33: Performance Reporting

## Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grants

Mark Bailey: Let me talk a little bit about the performance reporting. The metrics that we are very interested in having you focus on and will be providing guidance on are on the outcome, oriented toward your outcomes, looking at jobs created, energy saved, renewable energy capacity installed, greenhouse gas emissions reduced, and funds leveraged. We are developing and extending an existing reporting mechanism that we've used for states for quite a few years and we are moving that to a web-based reporting system so that all cities, counties, and states can quickly access the web-based system and provide information that allows you to measure your progress and also allows us to roll this up on a national basis to ensure accountability and transparency of these funds. The individual output metrics that we will also be looking at are activity-based, the indicators of progress, the activities from doing an audit to a retrofit, to holding workshops, disseminating information, the kind of things that lead on to the eventual outcome of the project.

### Slide 34: Application Process

Mark Bailey: The application process is shown on this slide. I am going to stop short of reading off this information, but suffice it to say that there is a simple application process through FedConnect. Eligible entities should become familiar with FedConnect by reading this information on this website. I believe that this information will be available to the folks on the webcast afterwards, from EPA.

### Slide 35: For More Information

Mark Bailey: Now, these websites on the last page are: the first webpage at the top is kind of a key website that you should note. It is [www.eere.energy.gov/wip](http://www.eere.energy.gov/wip). That is where we have information on the block grants as well as the state energy program, the weatherization program, and the appliance rebate program. We will be updating that website weekly to provide the latest information. That information on that website is really the only information currently publicly available, so there you can find the latest and greatest information. You can also, via that website, subscribe to a listserv progress alert through which we send out newsworthy items, including changes or updates on this block grant and other recovery programs. And you can also contact the EERE Information Center; their phone number and website are available here.

I wanted to mention one thing as you begin to plan your programs and projects: I mentioned early on in the presentation that we really are balancing creating jobs now with creating sustained program activity over time, and I think there are things that you should all be thinking about, you know, setting up revolving loan funds, engaging in performance contracting, and looking at how to tackle all your public buildings using financing mechanisms that can leverage these federal dollars and make them go a lot longer and create more jobs in the totality because you see there's a program that can live well beyond the grant period. So there are a lot of great ideas already happening out in cities and counties, some of the policies out there, from Berkeley and many of the cities in California, and some back East and Milwaukee are using things like property taxes to

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help fund home retrofits, etc. So we are very interested in helping to share best practices, we have been working closely with partners like EPA to really document what's being done, what's working. We also realize that over the years there's been a lot of leadership at the local government level and we want to help you continue to innovate and to help you put good programs in place and share what's working and share what your lessons learned are as we move down the road. So with that I'm going to stop and open it up for Q&A.

Neelam Patel: Thank you, Mark. Before we begin the Q&A I'd like to introduce two of Mark's colleagues that are here with him: Dan Beckley joined the Department of Energy as a presidential management fellow and so he has worked on this team for the last six years with a focus on market transformation activities for the State and Local team at DOE. We also have Johanna Zetterberg. She is with the State and Local team and she's also a presidential management fellow. So with that, Lauren, our first question for our folks at DOE, Mark, Dan and Johanna.

Lauren Pederson: Sure. In regarding the conservation and block grants, how are the block grants administered, are federally recognized NGOs eligible for their regions? In greater Philadelphia, one participant said that they had many small municipalities well below the 35,000 threshold and will these small municipalities get funding via their county?

Mark Bailey: Okay, there's a two-part answer to that. NGOs are not directly eligible for direct grants under the 68% of the pool that will go directly to cities and counties over 35,000—over 200,000. The \$400 million competitive program, absolutely, any partnerships that are developed at the city and county level. Part of the objective that the Department has and part of the intent of the law is to encourage cities and counties to work in collaboration both at the county level but also regionally. So we do encourage that NGOs meet with cities and counties and work to look at how this is going to, you know, what are the synergies between different projects and different programs are, and looks at how funding given directly to the large cities and counties can be used in a regional context. They can also help with policies and in other ways. Now, an NGO would be eligible for direct funding under the competitive portion of the \$400 million competitive, as well as be a facilitation or a collaborative group for the 2%, the \$56 million that will be provided to the non-eligible or smaller cities and counties, as well as helping to work with the states to forge partnerships with the money coming from the states. So, they have a big role to play, they aren't necessarily eligible for direct funding other than the competitive.

Lauren Pederson: Okay, our next question from a participant was, how long does the registration process take?

Mark Bailey: What we're telling folks right now is that for the registration, you should allow at least 21 days and that's to be registered in FedConnect get your DUNS number and the other requirements that are up on the website and on that slide in the presentation.

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Lauren Pederson: Great. Another participant asked: Can a local government use the entire direct allocation from DOE for retrofits to its own facilities?

Mark Bailey: Absolutely. The entire funding can be used to plan and implement a retrofit. I do want to encourage the use of mechanisms that are out there that bring in private sector financing to help, you know, tax credits, bond financing, performance contracting, anything that can leverage those dollars. However, the funding can be 100% used toward renovation of public facilities at the city or county level.

Lauren Pederson: Okay, and our next question, what is the definition of a job created or retained? Is a short-term construction job considered a job?

Mark Bailey: That's a great question. We are working with the Department of Labor to adopt not only the methodology on how we calculate job creation, but also the definitions of permanent and temporary jobs, any job created—I mean, the reality here is that we are trying to put money into that local economy that creates a permanent job. We hope that we are not just spending money to create jobs that, when this funding is over within a year and a half, go away. So that's what so important about creating long-term programs, creating market transformation activities, that then create a demand for those jobs past that temporary job. But, most certainly a job created is a job created.

Lauren Pederson: Okay great. Next, what information will we get from FedConnect if localities receive the formula money?

Mark Bailey: Can you repeat that?

Lauren Pederson: Yeah. This participant was interest in what information they will receive from FedConnect if they receive formula money.

Mark Bailey: Well, FedConnect is where the application information will be, where the process is embedded. What will happen after their application is processed is they will have contact with our contracting officers and our project management center to put a grant award in place. The allocation of funding will be posted in the Federal Register so you'll know, all cities and counties will know, how much funding they'll be receiving, or have the potential to receive through the formula, once we post that information.

Lauren Pederson: Okay, and the next question is, what is the schedule for applying for competitive grants?

Mark Bailey: We have not developed a schedule yet for the competitive solicitations. Right now we are focused, the first priority is to get the formula grant money moving, you know, put the process in place so that cities and counties can, as quickly as possible, get plans and get grants from the Department to begin their programs and projects. The schedule for our competitive solicitation will be posted on our website when we have that finalized.

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Lauren Pederson: Okay, and can local governments use funding to collaborate with DOE national labs and cover their expenses to assist with projects?

Mark Bailey: As part of this program, we are developing and greatly expanding our technical experience and access to the national labs. We have had for quite some time a program that we call TAP, which is our Technical Assistance Program, that provides access for states, and more recently we've extended that access to cities and counties to access national labs for high-end technical assistance that can overcome some hurdles to get a program or project in place, focused on policy or major projects. That kind of assistance will be available to, as much as possible, aggregated groups of cities and counties through this program. We will be providing the funding and that support structure outside of your grants. We are also planning some major partnerships with our state partners, with the performance contracting industry and our state partners, to provide a variety of technical resources and project implementation and financing, best practices and tools, to help implement these projects. Again, all of these resources will be provided in addition to the grants that are provided for cities and counties. In fact, Dan and Johanna are leading our technical resource development for the block grant program, so you'll hear a lot more about how this will roll out in the future.

Lauren Pederson: Okay, great. One participant wanted to know if green roofs are eligible.

Mark Bailey: Green roofs are eligible as long as they are combined with other measures, holistic measures in building renovations and of course at the end of the day, performance metrics have to be shown that there's energy savings, with the retrofit of any kind of measure used in the building. So as long as it saves energy, and we'll be providing some performance metrics that we are seeking to achieve as far as energy savings per dollar spent, so as long as it achieves a performance metric, as long as it saves energy, or puts in place renewable capacity, we're supportive of it.

Lauren Pederson: Okay, another question. Will DOE require benchmarking as part of measuring results from stimulus money?

Mark Bailey: Can you repeat the question, I'm sorry.

Lauren Pederson: Sure. Will DOE require benchmarking as part of measuring results from stimulus money?

Mark Bailey: Yeah, one of the planning activities that we will be providing information on, and will be requiring, is ensuring that folks, as they are entering into a program or project, they have a target market in mind, to understand what energy is being used, how much they are spending on energy, before they get started. So, whether it's an individual building project or a target market, you clearly want to, and we will require, benchmarking and the use of a variety of tools that are out there to benchmark buildings, do community-wide benchmarking, such as some of the tools that ICLEI has, there's a lot of tools out there to do this kind of work. We will require that benchmarking happens

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both at the project level but also at the program and portfolio level, at that city and county level.

Lauren Pederson: Okay, and another question, Will. . .

Neelam Patel: Lauren? Before we continue, Leslie Cook wants to add a comment.

Leslie Cook: If you don't mind, just to reinforce that, if you were to choose Portfolio Manager as your benchmarking tool, and as Mark said there are a number of tools out there, but if you choose Portfolio Manager to measure those metrics that DOE will be providing in their guidance, such as energy savings and reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, you can use Portfolio Manager for those building metrics as well as portfolio metrics, and as we build out external reporting capabilities that we are doing right now, we are working with DOE to make sure that our metrics will hopefully match their metrics so that it's a seamless transition for the users out there. Just wanted to highlight that.

Neelam Patel: Thank you. Lauren, next question?

Lauren Pederson: Next question: Will counties be able to apply for the competitive grant and the formula grant?

Mark Bailey: Yes.

Lauren Pederson: Okay, next question: When does DOE expect to publish their notice of funding availability in the Federal Register?

Mark Bailey: Right now we are crazy behind the scenes getting ready for the launch of this program, developing the guidance, meeting OMB requirements, one of the things that Leslie talked about was benchmarking, we are going to be providing an online database to collect information and OMB has set up some requirements that we have to ensure that we comply with and make sure that there is full transparency to collect and disseminate that data and make that publicly available through [www.recovery.gov](http://www.recovery.gov). So right now the only thing I can say as far as schedule is that we'll have this out as soon as we can. I wish I could give you a specific date, but we're working through that process as we speak. I fully expect the guidance for the block grants to be out in the next 2 to 4 weeks.

Neelam: Thanks, we'll take two more questions for our DOE friends.

Lauren Pederson: Sure. Is it better for small cities to coordinate with a county JPA to access the block grant funds or should we submit proposal directly from our jurisdiction?

Mark Bailey: Small cities, cities under 35,000, are eligible for money through the state. So one thing you can do is contact your state energy office, that's one avenue. When the money goes to the states, they will be passing money to smaller cities and smaller

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counties. I would also encourage you to go visit with your county if your county is over 200,000 in population, as well as look at potential collaboration with cities in the regional area that you may work already with through coops or purchases on contracts on everything from police cars to janitorial supplies, etc. You know, look for ways that you are already aggregated in the market, and can speak with one voice and can look to develop proposals that can be provided to us through the competitives. The \$56 million competitives is really looking at targeting these smaller cities and counties and looking, not only for individually, but in the way of the consortia, so you can definitely band together, small cities, small counties on a regional basis, put a proposal in for the \$56 million. You could also approach your state energy office to get grants through them and to find out how they are going to manage their program to reach you. And let your voice be heard, you know, call your state energy office.

Lauren Pederson: Okay, and the last question: In terms of direct formula grants to cities and counties, is it just a matter of filling out a basic application? How many details of a potential program will we need to provide?

Mark Bailey: What's required is a strategy, and we will be providing a template on the types of elements required with that strategy. Things like the goals of the program, the strategy the city or county will use to carry it out, and then specific information about individual projects that you will undertake, performance metrics, and total budget broken down by those individual projects, so that will be required of any city, any county, any state, to receive funding under the program. This will be a very simplified application process. Believe me, we are cutting out all the red tape we can. And we'll make it streamlined and simple for folks to get in the door.

Neelam Patel: Thank you and thank you, Lauren. And thank you to Mark, Dan, and Johanna from DOE. For any questions that have not been answered during the session, we will be submitting all of the questions to Mark, Dan, and Johanna so that they can address them when they create their frequently asked questions for their website. So thanks, guys. And now we'd like to move on to the next part of our webcast, which deals with clean energy opportunities in drinking and wastewater treatment facilities.

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Slide 36: The American Reinvestment and Recovery Act

Neelam Patel: I'd like to introduce our first speaker, Stephanie von Feck. Stephanie is an environmental protection specialist in the State Revolving Fund Branch, Office of Wastewater Management. With 15 years of federal experience in EPA's water quality, pesticide, and air program, she is currently a member of a team implementing and evaluating the Clean Water State Revolving Fund and Congressional special appropriations projects. Prior to joining EPA, Stephanie was an urban planner working on community revitalization issues and urban environmental protection in Maryland. She has her Master's in community planning from the University of Maryland and a Bachelor's of Science in business administration from Salisbury University.

Stephanie von Feck: Thank you very much for that lovely introduction and for inviting us to participate on the webcast, this is a wonderful opportunity to reach this wonderful network of local officials. The Clean Water—and later you'll be hearing about the Drinking Water—State Revolving Funds are uniquely targeted to provide assistance to the folks who are on the phone today. So I look forward to seeing the questions that come in. We'll start with some basics on the Clean Water and Drinking Water State Revolving Fund. And then we are going to split up and deal with some of the specific differences between the two programs.

Slide 37: What are the State Revolving Funds (SRFs)?

Stephanie von Feck: There we go, thank you. I want to emphasize that the State Revolving Funds, there are two different ones, the Clean Water and the Drinking Water State Revolving Funds. They provide ongoing financial assistance for water quality and drinking water projects, including energy efficiency projects, every year, year in and year out; the Clean Water SRF has been doing so for 20 years, and the Drinking Water SRF just reached its 10-year anniversary. So while we are talking about stimulus on this webcast, I want you to keep in mind that the state revolving funds are an ongoing funding source. Last year the Clean Water State Revolving Fund placed \$5.8 billion worth of assistance and the Drinking Water SRF placed \$2 billion worth of assistance with communities. All states and Puerto Rico operate both of these SRF programs, so there are 102 programs throughout the country. They are state-run programs, so we, at EPA, interact with our state partners and provide feed money and the states select projects, determine the financial terms of the assistance and do project oversight, with of course EPA providing the seed money and providing the federal oversight of the program.

Slide 38: How are the SRFs Structured?

Stephanie von Feck: Again, as EPA does provide the seed money, however, the idea here is that these are infrastructure banks, and they are going to grow. So we have repayments from old loans that are coming in, we have leveraging on the bond market, we have state

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match, we have interest earnings, etc., growing the funds available here so that they are available into perpetuity. Basically, the difference between the two programs is that the Clean Water SRF provides loans to publicly owned wastewater and storm water infrastructure projects and publicly or privately owned nonpoint source and estuary protection projects. The Drinking Water State Revolving Fund provides assistance to drinking water utilities for treatment and distribution infrastructure. In addition to the basic, low-interest loan tool that's used by every state, Drinking Water SRFs can also provide principal forgiveness, negative interest rate loans, or extended repayment terms to sort of make the loans more affordable for communities. And you're going to see this echoed again because it showed up again in the stimulus funding. The Drinking Water SRF also includes a number of programmatic set-asides to build the capacity of states and communities to operate their systems.

### Slide 39: American Reinvestment and Recovery Act (ARRA)

Stephanie von Feck: Now moving on to the stimulus funds. The American Reinvestment and Recovery Act provided \$4 billion for the clean water program and \$2 billion for the drinking water program. Both programs are required to use 20% of funding for something we are calling a green reserve. And that's what we're really going to talk about today. In addition to that, for any projects, be it green projects or our traditional infrastructure projects, the states must use at least 50% of their funding for what we are calling additional subsidization. These are things like principal forgiveness on a loan, think of getting a mortgage for \$100,000 and have the bank forgive half of that or more; negative interest rates, which is essentially the same thing; and grants. Now, grants is a very attractive word, and I just want to caution folks as we move into this that with grants, federal grants, which is essentially what these would be, even though they come from the state government, there are a number of federal requirements that flow along with them and the guidance includes probably 10 plus pages. So keep your mind open to other options that provide you the same subsidy, but with a different name. Our guidance was issued Monday of this week, the 2<sup>nd</sup> of March, it is available on our website at [www.epa.gov/recovery](http://www.epa.gov/recovery) and it is also available as a resource on this webcast. As you know, the stimulus bill was passed in mid-February, so I think this must break some sort of speed record at EPA for issuing guidance. With that there will be additional information provided, particularly as we get more information on things like Buy American Steel etc., that will apply to every area of the federal government.

### Slide 40: American Reinvestment and Recovery Act (ARRA)

Stephanie von Feck: The goals of the stimulus funding are to create and save jobs, build infrastructure, and we really want to make the most of the opportunity to fund Green Projects. Administrator Jackson met with our management on Monday and this was her highest priority. She wants EPA to be a leader in getting these kind of projects out there. Preference is provided for projects that are ready to start at 120 days. And the key deadline here is that all projects funded must be in contracts for construction or in construction by February 17<sup>th</sup> of next year. So there is only one year to go through project identification, selection, approval and get that project going. So everyone is on a very,

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very tight timeframe. Bear in mind because these are federal funds, there will be environmental review requirements associated with them and federal cross-cutters will apply. There's also a different application process in each state. So one of the resources available is a state contact list; if you're interested in accessing these funds for your project, contact those folks, they have their own unique timelines, and they are moving very swiftly so I encourage you to do so immediately.

### Slide 41: ARRA SRF Green Reserve

Stephanie von Feck: In general, the green reserve has four focus areas: energy efficiency; water efficiency; green, essentially stormwater infrastructure; and innovative environmental projects. As I said, 20% of every state's capitalization grant must be used for these projects. States are probably going to come in with lists of projects. Some states will have enough for their entire share of the stimulus funds; others will have enough to encompass 80% of their traditional funding and then they'll be going out again to do more solicitation for projects in these four areas. No sooner than in 180 days or mid August can states certify that they have insufficient applications to use funding for these targeted areas. So I do encourage you to help the states out. We're all operating on a very short time frame, and get application in if they fall under these four particular focus areas.

### Slide 42: Clean Water SRF

Stephanie von Feck: Now let's move into some specifics regarding the Clean Water SRF, and after I'm done, then my colleague Howard Rubin will be picking up with the specifics for the Drinking Water SRF program. For the Clean Water SRF, public and privately owned projects can be funded and this varies by type; your states will be able to walk you through that. Planning, design, and building activities can be funded and "green" can comprise a portion of a project or be an entire project. So please submit projects that might have components that fall within these areas. Or that are energy-efficient or that encompass green stormwater in total.

### Slide 43: Clean Water SRF, Energy Efficiency

Stephanie von Feck: Energy Efficiency. Here you will see a definition that we've provided in the guidance as well as some example projects. This includes energy audits, retrofits to pumps and treatment processes, leak detection, including producing clean power to power publicly owned wastewater treatment works.

### Slide 44: Clean Water SRF, Water Efficiency

Stephanie von Feck: Water Efficiency. I'll leave you to read the list of projects there and the definition.

### Slide 45: Clean Water SRF, Green Infrastructure

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Stephanie von Feck: Green Infrastructure is very much tilted toward green stormwater practices that infiltrate, evapotranspire, and capture stormwater using natural landscape methods

Slide 46: Clean Water SRF, Environmentally Innovative Projects

Stephanie von Feck: And the fourth category would be environmentally innovative projects. Here what we're really looking for are things that are pushing the edge and really trying something innovative and creative.

Slide 47: Clean Water SRF Energy Examples

Stephanie von Feck: I want to end my section here with a few examples of things that have already been funded by the Clean Water State Revolving Fund before we even had the stimulus focus on these four areas. I think this re-emphasizes that this is an ongoing source of funding for energy efficiency projects that is simply augmented and certainly helped by the stimulus. First is a steam power production using treated wastewater effluent in California where they treat their waste water effluent to a higher level, pump it to a geologically active area, where it recharges the groundwater and then the groundwater turns into steam essentially, which powers enough electricity for 85,000 households. This is recognized worldwide as being a weather-independent component of the water reuse system.

Slide 48: Clean Water SRF Energy Examples, Solar Energy Powers Wastewater Treatment Works

Stephanie von Feck: Another one is solar power that was installed at a wastewater treatment facility in New Jersey. This captures solar power, they've also done wind power although it was funded by, I think, a complementary program, and the solar power actually supplies 3% of the wastewater treatment plant's energy needs.

Slide 49: Clean Water SRF Energy Examples, Biogas Energy Production at Wastewater Treatment Works

Stephanie von Feck: In Indiana, the Clean Water SRF funded a cogeneration facility as well as a fats, oil, and grease program to receive those from the community; the biosolids and additional fats, oil, and grease produce methane gas which is then captured to generate electricity to power the wastewater treatment works.

Slide 50: Clean Water SRF Energy Examples, Energy Efficiency Wastewater Pumping Project

Stephanie von Feck: And finally we have an example, again in California, where the Inland Empire Utilities Agency reconfigured their pumping system and the upgrades not only improved energy efficiency but improved equipment life, contributing to utility

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sustainability, and the upgrades have actually resulted in savings of \$71,000 or a 10% energy reduction for the utility.

Slide 51: Drinking Water SRF

Stephanie von Feck: With that, I'm going to turn it over to my colleague.

Neelam Patel: Now we have Howard Rubin. Howard has worked at EPA for 12 years on wastewater and drinking water issues. So he'll talk about the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund.

Howard Rubin: Thank you very much. Well, I'm on the water side, we've, as Stephanie mentioned, been a player in water and energy conservation for some time, for as long as the programs have been around. This may be our own bias, but we've always viewed water efficiency and energy efficiency as being very hand-in-glove. Water is very heavy, and moving it is an energy-intensive process. I believe the stat may have been released earlier, but 2% of a state's energy use goes to this process alone. So anything one can do to be more water-efficient leads to greater energy efficiency. Additionally, there are many other elements of running a wastewater and drinking water treatment plant that lend themselves to improvement, to energy efficiency improvement. On the drinking water side, repair and replacement have long been viewed as green benefits, but the stimulus bill, it goes further, beyond what they call typical incidental green benefits. In the past the general repair we've done, replacing type heads that may have been corroded or tuberculosed, I guess, or maybe the simplest term, filled with crud, is inherently more energy efficient, it makes it flow smoother, it reduces the leaks, maintains pressure, that just makes the water move easier, makes it all less energy-intensive.

Slide 52: What is a DWSRF "Green Project" Under ARRA?

Howard Rubin: Under ARRA, what we need to do is to set up a clear delineation as to what is green beyond what we've considered our normal bread and butter work. Much as the Clean Water SRF laid out, there are a number of opportunities, a great number of projects that are here, but we need to make sure that what we consider green meets a higher bar. What has been laid out as a sort of definition of green is that there be a clear, documented business case made for the project investment that includes clear identifiable and substantial benefits, some basic analysis of the components, and what's we've written here, a simple quantitative bright line. What we're trying to say here is that we're not going to do a really simple formula. For example, if you have a pipe that is leaking 20% of your flow, that is inherently green. What we ultimately want is for someone outside of the program to be able to come in and understand why a project is considered green. Not for it to be fuzzy and not for it to be our status quo that we have operating.

Slide 53: What is a DWSRF "Green Project" Under ARRA? Components for a Business Case

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Howard Rubin: The components for a business case that we talked about are technical and financial. Information regarding the benefits, the sustained benefits, that are intended from the project, not just the water, the water savings, the energy savings, the financial savings that will come from these.

Slide 54: What is a DWSRF “Green Project” Under ARRA?

Howard Rubin: As Stephanie mentioned, these are state programs, it’s state SRFs, state Drinking Water SRFs, that are ultimately responsible for making the decision as to what will comply with the 20% requirement. EPA is doing the oversight and making sure those decisions as I mentioned are transparent, justifiable, and that they’re publicly accessible.

Slide 55: Drinking Water SRF Energy/Water Efficiency & Green Infrastructure/Environmentally Innovative Projects

Howard Rubin: Some examples of these drinking water, energy, water efficiency, and green infrastructure, environmentally innovative projects, I’ve listed below. These are certainly a short list, intentionally. We want to be open to whatever ideas are out there. But on-site renewable energy, water meters, meter reading equipment, on-site improvement to facilities, as Stephanie mentioned, many of the stormwater green infrastructure components—they are just as applicable to a drinking water facility. And eligible costs, the planning and design of this, the construction, water audits, water conservation plans, energy audits, and whatever else one might bring to the table. As I mentioned we are looking for ideas and we are looking for applications.

Slide 56: For More Information

Howard Rubin: I posted here, I guess I won’t go through it all, the resources we have available at EPA, on our drinking water and wastewater sites, and on our WaterSense program, which is a wastewater, broadly, and energy efficiency program modeled somewhat after ENERGY STAR, and our contact information. And with that I believe we are ready for questions.

Neelam Patel: Actually we will have one more speaker. Thank you Stephanie and Howard. We’ll now have Katy Hatcher from EPA’s ENERGY STAR program. Katy is the national manager for the public sector program for ENERGY STAR.

Slide 57: ENERGY STAR: Water and Water Utilities

Neelam Patel: She works with education, government, water, and wastewater utility partners to help them improve their energy performance through the use of ENERGY STAR tools and resources, which we heard so much about this afternoon. Katy has been working with EPA for about 12 years and she holds a degree from the University of Virginia, School of Architecture and City Planning.

Slide 58: What is ENERGY STAR for Buildings and Plants?

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Katy Hatcher: Hi everybody, I'm glad to be here. I know it's getting late in the day, so I'm going to try and move pretty quickly so we have time for plenty of questions. You heard from Leslie Cook, my colleague in the public sector with ENERGY STAR, so I am actually not going to read some of the content off of these introductory slides in detail, because she covered some of those in her points. The good thing is they are included here for your references in the future. I do want to point out why ENERGY STAR moved into water and wastewater, and one of the main reasons is that, building on the success of our initiative with buildings, we learned from our local government partners that they were very interested in us being able to provide rating capabilities and energy management information for drinking water and wastewater utilities.

### Slide 59: Energy Use in Water and Wastewater

Katy Hatcher: To give you a little sense for the size of the market for energy efficiency in drinking water and wastewater, 3% of the national energy consumption is actually in water and wastewater and \$4 billion in energy costs are spent to supply drinking water, potable drinking water and clean wastewater. And that creates a lot of greenhouse gas emissions. And as I've mentioned, it's important to local governments, it can often represent 30-40% of a local government's energy use, and is second only to salaries. And then also with fluctuating energy costs and increasing energy use from advanced treatment, operating budgets for POTWs and drinking water facilities may tend to be even tighter than they already currently are, so energy efficiency is obviously a good opportunity in that sense.

### Slide 60: Clean Energy Opportunity

Katy Hatcher: We've been talking about energy efficiency, but I'd like to extend that definition a little bit and talk about clean energy, so we can include the use of biogas and get power into the definition as well as the opportunity to use solar and wind as people try to reduce the energy consumption of their drinking water and wastewater utilities, in terms of biogas, that would be in the wastewater treatment plant side of things. In terms of energy efficiency, it's out there through the various audits that have been done, there's a wide range, it goes up even higher, but a pretty conservative estimate is that the energy efficiency average opportunity is between 10 and 20 percent in terms of doing things like process optimization and equipment modification. And listed here is not a comprehensive list of what the opportunities are, but to give you a sense of some of the things you can go after in terms of improving your energy efficiency, or utilizing renewable energy, and combined heat and power, there's a list here for you.

### Slide 61: How can Water and Wastewater Utilities Get Involved Now?

Katy Hatcher: So now, water and wastewater utilities can get involved with ENERGY STAR by joining ENERGY STAR, and in particular what we'd like to encourage folks to do is use Portfolio Manager to measure and verify energy use of their drinking water systems and their wastewater treatment plants. Leslie mentioned this tool earlier, it can be

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used for buildings and plants in this sense. And what you can do is you can group your buildings and you can share them with others. It is a very useful tool in the sense of working across a large organization. For example, a local government can work with it, a POTW and multiple agencies, and end up tracking buildings and plants. You can compare the energy performance of your plant to plants nationwide, and for drinking water systems you can do the same in terms of comparing them to a national average. I'm not going to get into great detail about how our rating system works; however, I do want to encourage you to use the system to enter your energy use information, make comparisons, measure progress, and then verify out your results over baseline. You just heard that it is important to be able to demonstrate energy efficiency reductions. This tool can help you do that. It can also help you measure carbon reduction for energy efficiency. The program is more than just ENERGY STAR's Portfolio Manager's tool, we also have a comprehensive set of ENERGY STAR Guidelines for energy management, and many tools and resources that can help you track your energy efficiency investments. And in addition, in order to network and provide people with examples of best practices, we routinely offer webcasts that feature our partners talking about what they're doing to save energy and their very informative for helping people understand how to grow their long-term energy management efforts.

### Slide 62: Benchmarking

Katy Hatcher: To spend just a few minutes on it, the reason to benchmark is because it's a good point of comparison. When you buy a car, particularly these days, it's important to think about what its fuel economy is, how many miles per gallon it gets. Well, the same would be true if you are working in a drinking water system or a POTW, it would be important to think about your decisions in the context of how it impacts your energy use. And one way to understand your energy use is to make a comparison to your peers and that's what our tool allows you to do and see a comparison among your peers.

### Slide 63: Why Benchmark?

Katy Hatcher: In addition it gives you more information to help identify billing errors; assess effectiveness of current operations, policies, and practices; and assist in planning, in the sense of setting goals, targets, timelines, and prioritizing capital improvements. It helps with just responsible management of your plant's improvements.

### Slide 64: ENERGY STAR Documentation

Katy Hatcher: In order to facilitate information sharing and data in, for example, performance contracting or grant programs, we have a have a document called the Statement of Energy Performance that can be generated. It's a report on the energy use and greenhouse gas metrics, and information about how a plant is saving energy over its baseline. The document is set up to be verified and stamped by a particular professional. In our situation, with buildings, what we do is require professional engineers to stamp it, however the document is created in a generic form so our partners can actually identify the type of person with a set of credentials that would then stamp that block.

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### Slide 65: Portfolio manager for Wastewater

Katy Hatcher: I'm not going to read this list, but to give you a sense of the information that is needed to put into Portfolio Manager for wastewater treatment plants, it's not a huge list of information, it's usually only information that can be found by a POTW manager. One of the most extensive data collection efforts is actually the first bullet, which is the actual energy use information for all fuels on a monthly basis. Often we've discovered that the energy bills, or the energy use information, is not necessarily going to the plant managers, and so that is one benefit to benchmarking and using Portfolio Manager: it's a tool that can be used to convey information across the management structure.

### Slide 66: View Performance Metrics in Portfolio Manager

Katy Hatcher: And here's a simple screen shot. Hopefully this appear larger on your own screens, then you can read it, but it gives you a sense of what the look and feel of Portfolio Manager is. The metrics for drinking water and wastewater are in KBTus per million gallons per day, and there's also actually a whole host of metrics for these two end uses, that you can, when you are playing with the tool, or starting to use it, you can set up new views with something called Create a View and I encourage you to do that.

### Slide 67: Comparing Plants

Katy Hatcher: Again, why benchmark? If you take a look at this graph, you can see that there's a—within this range of plants that has an average daily flow ranging from 2.3 MGD to—is that the highest? Actually, I guess the lowest is, 1.7 up to 2.3 MGDs, so they are very similar plants, but look at the different in their energy consumption. It varies widely. So through this what you can do is, you can see similar size plants use a largely different amount of energy and you can ask yourself, why is this one using less energy than another?

### Slide 68: Strategic Approach to Energy Management

Katy Hatcher: In addition to this benchmarking tool called Portfolio Manager, we have a comprehensive energy management program, and that is encompassed in our ENERGY STAR Guidelines for Energy Management. You can see in the diagram to the right, the flow with which the program takes. You make a commitment, and then you assess performance and set goals, you create an action plan, you implement that action plan, you evaluate progress, and then you applaud yourself for your success over time and then you keep moving forward.

### Slide 69: Energy Management Guidebook

Katy Hatcher: I'd like to also mention a document that our Office of Water has developed that integrates ENERGY STAR into it. It was specifically developed for drinking

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water— it looks like I have a misspelled word there—for drinking water and wastewater utilities, and again, it encompasses ENERGY STAR as well, but it goes into greater detail that is specific for drinking water and wastewater. The Office of Water, in conjunction with our EPA regional offices, also uses this guide as part of a workshop series that they do.

Slide 70: Questions?

Katy Hatcher: So that concludes my presentation and this is contact information for myself and also Leslie Cook, as well as a few of our contractors. You can go directly to information about how to benchmark your wastewater utilities by going to link that is at the top of this slide and if you bookmark that, that will be a good idea. Thank you very much.

Neelam Patel: Thank you Katy. We're going to move into the Question and Answer session and I'd just like to introduce someone we have on the speaker line to answer questions related to these water issues we've been talking about.

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Slide 71: Participating Federal Staff for Q&A

Neelam Patel: Jason Turgeon from our EPA Boston office is also on the line, he specializes in the intersection of water and energy and works mostly with municipal drinking water and wastewater systems to help them be more energy-efficient and produce their own renewable energy on-site. So we will be taking questions not only on the water topic, but also on any other topics that we have up here on this PowerPoint slide.

We have several people in the room to answer questions. From the ENERGY STAR program, as we've already heard, Leslie Cook will be here, she is a program manager for commercial buildings program; we'll have Brian Ng, who is our expert on affordable housing and EPA ENERGY STAR for Homes, he manages the affordable housing and finance programs for the EPA ENERGY STAR Residential Program. He is also involved in outreach to federal, state, and local stakeholders with regard to improving the energy efficiency of new and existing low-income housing. So please submit your questions for Brian as well. We have, in the room with us, Rachel Goldstein, she is a program manager and team lead for EPA's Landfill Methane Outreach Program and she is here to answer any questions you have about implementing this type of project and how it relates to the stimulus. And lastly, I just want to confirm, Jennifer? I think that wraps up everyone we have in the room, so we'd like to start taking questions for the folks here. Lauren, questions?

Lauren Pederson: Sure. A question that came up during the drinking water presentation was: What do you think is the most important aspect of the 20% set-aside for the state revolving fund?

Howard Rubin: That's a very good question. I think the most important aspect is that this is an opportunity to do things differently, not to necessarily label past practices as bad, but there's a huge infusion of money and there's an opportunity to address things that we've always wanted to do that we haven't been able to do. There has been a long-standing desire to do water metering, this is chance to do it. In the past, in general, we've prioritized things based on public health needs, now that there's a specific set of money reserved for green infrastructure; green infrastructure doesn't become secondary to public health, it becomes, for this pot of money, on equal footing. On both the drinking water and clean water side, nationally we saw a tremendous outpouring of cash in the baby boom generation, and a lot of that effort is reaching near the end of its useful lifespan. So I have to say the timing of this is good, and this is a good chance, a good time to take a fresh look at what we're doing and implement the green energy elements of this.

Jason Turgeon: This is Jason Turgeon from EPA Region 1. I wanted to second that, but especially focus on the clean water side. It was mentioned that in the Environmentally Innovative Projects, to qualify for the 25% set-aside the decentralized wastewater

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solutions, that to me is probably the most important three or four words of the whole presentation. We are really starting to push on making people change the way they think about wastewater and change the way they manage their wastewater and the direction we are heading in, very soon, it's an entire agency that will be focused on small, decentralized plants that will be near the source of the pollution and can recycle the water right there into the areas for non-potable uses. So if you are thinking about doing something really innovative and 21<sup>st</sup> century and you've been looking for your chance, this is the one that gets me most excited.

Neelam Patel: Thank you. Lauren, next question?

Lauren Pederson: During the ENERGY STAR presentation, a question came up: Energy efficiency upgrades are mostly a two part process, first the energy audit and second energy efficiency improvement. Is it possible to apply for funding for both steps of the process in one application?

Stephanie von Feck: If you are addressing that to the two state revolving fund programs, the answer would be yes. It could be two components of one overall project. Or they could end up being separate projects treated in different years.

Lauren Pederson: Thank you. A question that came up during the drinking water presentation as well was about environmental reviews and requirements. What or whose guidelines and requirements must be followed?

Howard Rubin: Well, for environmental review, if you're talking about NEPA, that's still a part of the program. For a lot of the work we do, it falls under the title of categorical exclusion so it is very possible that a lot of this work will just need the review that it qualifies as a categorical exclusion. If it's in-house to the plants, if it doesn't disturb a lot of soil, or even if it's disturbing something that's been dug up before, but you know, NEPA is part of the work we do.

Lauren Pederson: Great, thank you. The next question, has EPA defined an environmentally innovative activity and could training be considered such an activity?

Stephanie von Feck: The Clean Water State Revolving Fund—and correct me if I'm wrong for drinking water, Howard—focuses on capital projects. We define that rather loosely, it's not just you know, pipe and plants, but also natural processes to capture and treat stormwater as well as wastewater. We definitely do not reach into the realm of operating and maintaining projects and training, that falls outside of how we look at capital projects as well.

Howard Rubin: Actually, I would add that the drinking water SRF has, as Stephanie had mentioned very early, set-asides, and they're actually part of the stimulus package, there are set-asides for small system technical assistance and state program management. States have discretion in what they can use that for. We have our existing statutes and

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regulations, but training is a part of that, and certainly training for economic innovation, green infrastructure, all of that, can be part of that if the state wishes.

Stephanie von Feck: I guess that's one of the main differences between the two SRFs: the Clean Water SRF, being ten years older, does not have the set-aside component to support capacity development out there, so the funds simply go to capital projects in the clean water side.

Howard Rubin: Thank you.

Lauren Pederson: Thank you. There is a specific question on the ENERGY STAR and Portfolio Manager: Does Portfolio Manager include information about job creation?

[Speaker]: No, it does not.

Lauren Pederson: And the next question is for the Landfill Methane Outreach Program: Are public landfill-gas-to-energy projects eligible for anything under the stimulus bill?

[Speaker]: Yes they are. And certainly we as a program are trying to comb through everything. With the clean renewable energy bonds that were originally put through in the Energy Policy Act of 2005, there was an additional allocation as part of this act in 2009, for another \$1.6 billion. We do know that landfill-gas-to-energy projects at municipalities have received them in the past, so that is certainly an option. And we'll be updating our website with more information as we receive it. Thanks.

Lauren Pederson: Thank you. Another question that came up during the drinking water presentation was: Can we fund long-term initiatives with green reserve dollars that would provide incentives rather than pure construction projects?

Howard Rubin: Well, that's a good question. I think I'll have to take that back with me. I'm having a hard time wrapping my mind around what the questioner might have meant by long-term incentives as opposed to construction projects, I would say that construction is the focus of the program, but I would certainly take that back with me as something to consider.

Lauren Pederson: Okay, and the next question: Would the breaching of low water impact dams to return a river back to its natural state qualify under the revolving fund as a green project?

Stephanie von Feck: Certainly dam removal has been funded under the ongoing Clean Water State Revolving Fund program. As Howard went through so eloquently, one of the things we are looking at is to get a good business case as to why something qualifies as green, and in this case you're referencing the innovative part of the green reserve. So I would encourage whomever is asking this question to fill the business case using the guidance, the materials provided in the guidance, as to why this project would be innovative and submit it to the state for review.

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Lauren Pederson: Okay, the next question is regarding green jobs. The participant was interested in who can apply, and could a utility apply to get a trained energy efficiency workforce?

Andrea Denny: Um, you are probably stretching the expertise of the people in the room a little bit thin on the green jobs front. But my understanding with the green jobs training is that it covers a range of industries, and the exact nature of who's eligible to get that is defined more broadly than it has been in the past; there are different community colleges and community groups that are eligible. I'm not sure if utilities fall in that range, but I would imagine that a utility could also work with a nonprofit or a community group to develop the green jobs that it's interested in developing. And if people want to try and follow up with us, we can try and get more information about that. Our contact information is in the slides; Andrea or Neelam would be the person to follow up with.

Lauren Pederson: Thank you. And the next question is regarding energy efficiency: Is there an energy savings target, for example if a project stays 10% over the baseline does it qualify as green? Also, how is the baseline energy use established?

Howard Rubin: Actually, I would say, I know I went through this quickly, but this goes to an earlier slide that I set up, the bright line, that's actually a way we are specifically not going to do things. There is you know, an x amount of energy efficiency or an x amount of immediately reduction, that's not how we are going to handle this, the business case component of it. A business case will be viewed more on its own specific elements as opposed to a state being able to say "x equals green jobs if you're above it, x equals green infrastructure, if you are above it you're in, if your below it you're out." Thank you.

Jason Turgeon: It's Jason Turgeon from Region 1. I would also say on the second part of that question about how you can measure your baseline: Portfolio Manager can do that for pretty much any building as well as any drinking or wastewater treatment facility. We can give you a baseline energy metric as to what your current energy use per flow is, or per square foot. And we have classes and training on Portfolio Manager pretty much all the time. So that part, if you just want to know where you are and figure out where you're going, we can help with.

Katy Hatcher: This is Katy Hatcher. I wanted to interject something too, before we have the next question. One thing that has come into my mind when we've been talking about this is the use of money for capital projects, and the fact that this pot of money is going to be, some portion of it, would be forgiven in terms of the principal forgiveness efforts. So what that would mean is that if you pursued a cost-effective energy efficiency project, and you don't have to pay the debt associated with it or not the whole portion, the whole debt associated with it, then you may be able to end up with some sort of a cash flow in your operating budget that might be able to go toward other things like training, to train people to then operate the equipment and help with keeping your operating costs down in general.

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Lauren Pederson: Thank you. And the next question: Are private public renewable energy projects eligible for the renewable energy bonds? For example third-party-owned solar projects on city property?

Neelam Patel: You know, I think the experts in the room don't have an answer to that question at this time, but as Andrea said you can contact us and we can provide more information. We do have a little bit of feedback.

Rachel Goldstein: This is Rachel from LMOP. Actually one of our program partners is very very involved with the renewable energy bonds, not just the landfill gas but a number of other projects, so if someone wants to follow up with me on an email, they are essentially a tax attorney's firm that's always happy to answer some basic questions. So I'd be happy to forward that along.

Neelam Patel: If you forward that to Andrea, or me, Neelam, we can forward that to Rachel.

Lauren Pederson: Okay, and the next question: In terms of public-private partnership to complete drinking water improvement projects, which entity makes the loan payments and how much can be loaned per project?

Howard Rubin: On the drinking water side, the loans are made to utilities. The utility can work out any contractual arrangement it would like to. But from the state's perspective, the utility is the one doing the repayments. The utility actually has a lot of flexibility in what they can arrange to get a revenue flow towards those repayments, not just necessarily either on user fees, or sorry, their own water fees. As far as the question, is there a maximum, for a loan amount?

Lauren Pederson: Yes, it was how much can be loaned per project.

Howard Rubin: There isn't a limit on how much can be loaned per project that either ARRA or the clean drinking water has put out. In the past, some states have put limits just to make sure that loans are available for smaller systems. And larger systems in bigger cities that can get AAA bonds can get their own loans. With the availability of such a great amount of money, I imagine a lot of those maximums won't be around. They will be looking for more customers and they're not going to be excluding people based on the fact that they don't have enough money. Thank you.

Lauren Pederson: Thank you. And the next question is a question about Portfolio Manager. In areas where AMI meters are installed or are being installed, is there an opportunity to interface with portfolio manager on an automated basis?

Leslie Cook: Yes. You can interface with Portfolio Manager in an automated basis and we have information on our website about how to do that. There are a number of entities that already actually do automated benchmarking with our system, and it's set up for

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people to be able to establish that connection and utilities can also establish connections and enter data directly into the tool.

Lauren Pederson: Thank you. And one question came up: What level of match is anticipated for these program?

Stephanie von Feck: Match has actually been waived for the stimulus funds for both the clean water and the drinking water program. So the \$6 billion combined that we were talking about today has no state match associated with it.

Lauren Pederson: Thank you. And the next question: Can state revolving funds be used for greywater and other end-user incentives?

Stephanie von Feck: Yes. There are a number of projects that have already been funded by the, what I'll call ongoing base, Clean Water State Revolving Fund in that area. That is certainly something to look at regarding energy and water efficiency, as well as innovative projects under the green reserve for the stimulus funds. There are nuances associated with whether the project can be publicly or privately owned. They're much too complicated to go into here, so I will ask you to either email me or interact with the state where the project will take place and they can walk you through those nuances.

Andrea Denny: Lauren, if we have one last question, then we need to wrap up as our time is running out.

Lauren Pederson: Okay. This question: If a municipality does not supply drinking water but wants to initiate a water reclamation project that regulates potable water supply consumption, can that municipality apply for state revolving funds?

Howard Rubin: Well, I would say again, the states are allowed to make loans to drinking water facilities, however, these loans have been made to consolidate drinking water facilities with some that are smaller and less tenable on their own. They have been made to bring people who have not been part of a drinking water system to it if they have got failing wells or other water health problems that are best resolved by bringing them into a larger system. So, in the end the loan has to be made to a drinking water system, but the beneficiary doesn't necessarily have to be a drinking water system. Thank you.

Stephanie von Feck: If I can just take one opportunity to comment. I have been looking at a number of the questions that came in that we won't be able to address right now and it occurred to me that going so quickly through the presentation, I probably neglected to make it clear that the examples of the different kinds of green reserve projects that I provided on those four slides are things that we know of that are green. They certainly are not a comprehensive list. So I encourage you, you know, feel free to think more broadly than what you saw there. Those were just simply intended to put a little bit of definition around what the green reserve is for and provide a direction for us.

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Andrea Denny: Great. Thanks everyone. We really appreciate all of our speaker and all of our Q&A experts who came out and helped answer questions for us today. And thank all of you on the line for attending and staying on to the end. As you've probably heard, you know there are a lot of opportunities to fund different clean energy projects, both efficiency and renewables projects, through the stimulus package, and we just want to reiterate that we really hope you will consider these funds as the seed money to establish long-term sustainable energy and climate programs, and that you'll consider the energy implications of all your projects that you are funding with stimulus money.

As I mentioned, we are hoping to do another webcast next month on affordable housing, which will touch again on some of the funding that's available through the stimulus package, and it might give you some more concrete ideas of what you can do and how local governments have worked with affordable housing in their communities. I do recommend that you sign up for our listserv if you want to keep getting announcements about training opportunities like this or other ENERGY STAR training opportunities. We also make sure to publicize any funding opportunities we hear of, for local and state governments. Thanks everybody, and we will hope to see you on the call next month.