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From: egg@dca.state.nj.us [<mailto:egg@dca.state.nj.us>]

Sent: Friday, May 29, 2009 6:21 PM

To: Lashway, Lisa

Subject: Free Help with Energy Efficiency Conservation Block Grant Applications for Direct Funded Local Governments

Dear Municipal Clerk: Please review this time sensitive e-mail and share it with appropriate individuals in your organization.

The New Jersey Board of Public Utilities, with the assistance of the E.J. Bloustein School of Rutgers University, is offering free assistance with Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grants applications to local governments eligible to receive a direct formula Block Grants from the US Department of Energy. These municipalities know who they are and must have their applications in by June 25, 2009.

A series of free hands-on workshops/information sessions will be held between now and June 25 to help eligible direct funded local governments prepare their applications and strategies. There is information for municipalities and counties that not eligible for direct DOE funding at the end of this e-mail.

The DOE used a formula based on population and energy consumption data to designate which local governments are eligible for direct Block Grant funds. These counties and municipalities must register and apply in order to receive the EECBG funding. Instructions are available at www.grants.gov, under ?Apply for Grants.?

It is very important that if your community is eligible for direct funding that it immediately completes the preliminary application steps; register for a DUNS number, do a CCR registration and enroll in FedConnect. You should do this NOW even if you have not yet completed your application. These preliminary steps take 21 days for processing.

These Block Grants are funded through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (federal stimulus). See FAQ's on this program at www.state.nj.us/recovery/faq/bpu.html#7.

The sessions are free and will accomplish the following:

- ? Answer specific questions and help EECBG recipients complete their applications. Feel free to bring your laptop and/or actual draft application.
- ? Review services and assistance to municipalities from the NJBPU and Rutgers.
- ? Provide the latest information on resources, requirements, etc for the EECBGs.
- ? Provide a venue for sharing ideas and information.
- ? Help municipalities and counties complete solid applications by June 25.

Workshops/Information Sessions

Workshops will be held at the Bloustein School in New Brunswick from 10 a.m. to 1p.m. unless otherwise noted below. You may also call into these meetings at 866-255-8320 --- Participant Code 898759. (Please observe conference call etiquette: MUTE your phone unless you wish to speak, and DO NOT put the call on hold. If you need to get off the call and return, hang up and dial in again.)

June 1 (Trenton Office of NJ BPU 44 S. Clinton Ave)
June 4 - Bloustein School from 10 a.m. to 1p.m.
June 8 - Bloustein School from 10 a.m. to 1p.m.
June 11 - 2-5 p.m. BPU in Newark
June 15 - Bloustein School from 2-5 p.m.
June 18 - Bloustein School from 10 a.m. to 1p.m.
June 23 - Bloustein School from 10 a.m. to 1p.m.

For questions on these sessions, or for questions on NJ BPU programs, contact Peg Gallos at the NJ BPU, 973-648-2134 or energyefficiency@bpu.state.nj.gov. For information on Rutgers Services contact Patricia Ruby, 732-932-5475 x 551 or pruby@rci.rutgers.edu.

Municipalities and counties NOT eligible for direct Block Grants:

Direct funding from DOE is only available to the 65 municipalities and 10 counties so designated by DOE formula; however, DOE is providing approximately \$9 million to the State for additional Block Grant sub-grants. A proposal for the distribution of those funds is a scheduled agenda item before the NJ Board of Public Utilities on June 8, and guidelines will be made public subsequently. At this point it is not anticipated that this grant process would be of a complexity level that would require services of a consultant. The BPU advises local governments to hold off on any commitments to such arrangements until after the guidelines are released.

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