



A Program of the Maine Public Utilities Commission

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News Release

For Immediate Release

May 10, 2010

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Efficiency Maine Opens Grant Applications Process for New Energy Efficiency Projects

Augusta, Maine— Efficiency Maine, a program of the Maine Public Utilities Commission, is accepting grant applications for energy-related projects under its Commercial Grant Program. The funding is being provided by the federal American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA).

Commission Chair Sharon Reishus explained, “We look forward to identifying and awarding new projects that will result in significant energy savings, carbon emission reductions and state economic stimulus—which are goals of our state energy policy and the federal program.”

Efficiency Maine worked with the Office of the Governor and the Legislature to set aside \$2 million for commercial grants out of the approximately \$40 million provided by ARRA for energy-related projects.

The Commercial Grant Program allows industrial, commercial, municipal and non-profit organizations to apply for grants of up to \$50,000. Projects funded under this program and the ARRA are expected to meet goals that include energy savings, job creation and/or retention, and sustainable economic impact. Applicants are required to demonstrate the ability to provide matching funds at least equal to the amount of grant funding requested. The Commercial Grant Program also generates additional private investment funds.

In March, \$635,000 was awarded for energy efficiency projects at 19 commercial, municipal and non-profit facilities across Maine. Winning proposals included boiler upgrades, solar thermal systems, and heat recovery projects.

The application deadline is June 21, 2010. For more information or to request a copy of the detailed RFP, contact Jacquie.archer@maine.gov. Please reference RFP # 201004675 when making your request.

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The Maine Public Utilities Commission regulates electric, telephone, water and gas utilities to ensure that Maine citizens have access to safe and reliable utility service at rates that are just and reasonable for all ratepayers. Commission programs include Maine Enhanced 911 Service, Dig Safe, and Efficiency Maine.