



A Program of the Maine Public Utilities Commission

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News Release

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Efficiency Maine Awards \$635,000 to 19 Maine Companies for New Energy Efficiency Projects

Augusta, Maine—Today, the Maine Public Utilities Commission's Efficiency Maine program announced the award of \$635,000 for energy efficiency projects at 19 commercial, municipal and non-profit facilities across Maine. The funding is provided by the federal American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA) for commercial energy-related programs in the state.

Commission Chair Sharon Reishus explained, "After a competitive bidding process, we are pleased to have identified 19 projects to receive these valuable funds. The projects all promise significant energy savings, carbon emission reductions and state economic stimulus--which are goals of our state energy policy and the federal program."

The Commission's 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. Efficiency Maine also manages separate energy efficiency grants and incentive programs for the residential and industrial sectors.

Efficiency Maine's Commercial Grant Program--which administers the grants announced today--allowed participants to apply for grants of up to \$50,000. Applicants were required to demonstrate the ability to provide matching funds at least equal to the amount of grant funding requested. Importantly, the funding provided through these grants will leverage \$1.28 million in additional private investment. Grant applications were scored on their technical viability, economic impact, energy savings, budget and on the qualifications of the delivery team. Winning proposals included boiler upgrades, solar thermal systems, and heat recovery projects.

The complete list of award winners in the first round is attached. Efficiency Maine will conduct a second round of grant applications for the Commercial Grant Program within the coming months.

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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.