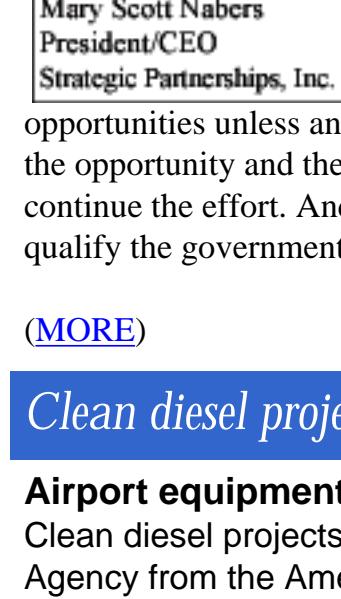


Lots of money flowing...lots of opportunity...but, before you compete for government contracts, read this...

IN THIS ISSUE



With billions of stimulus dollars flowing into all 50 states, government contractors from every industry sector are working quickly to decide which opportunities to pursue. In the frenzy though, it is important to remember that successful government contractors are successful primarily because they understand the importance of qualifying not only the opportunity, but also the governmental entity with the funding.

It is not wise to commit resources and chase opportunities unless and until a process of qualification has been completed. If the opportunity and the contractor's offerings are not a fit, it is foolish to continue the effort. And, in the qualification process, it is just as critical to qualify the governmental entity that will select the private sector contractor.

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Clean diesel projects awarded funding in four states

Airport equipment, school, transit buses to get upgrades

Clean diesel projects in four states have been awarded grants through the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act funding. The act set aside \$300 million for the National Clean Diesel Campaign, with \$156 million of that going to fund competitive grants nationwide through the National Clean Diesel Funding Assistance Program. Another \$20 million was included for the National Clean Diesel Emerging Technology Program with \$30 million for SmartWay Clean Diesel Finance Program grants.

Following are the recently announced allocations:

Texas, Houston - \$5.8 million from the National Clean Diesel Funding Assistance Program for combination of projects by the **City of Houston** and the **Port of Houston Authority**. The Port Authority will receive a total of \$3,468,132 for projects that will promote the use of advanced emission reduction and energy-efficient technologies as well as replacement of cargo handling equipment and the repowering of the Sam Houston marine vessel. The City of Houston will receive \$2,365,710 for its project to remove some of the city's oldest and highest polluting vehicles and equipment from various departments and replace them with newer and cleaner-running vehicles.

Texas, San Antonio, VIA Metropolitan Transit - \$1,013,719 to upgrade its bus fleet. The project will involve replacing the engines in 83 transit buses with lower-emitting engines.

State of Oklahoma, Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality - \$1,854,672 for school bus upgrades. The project will involve replacing and retrofitting more than 100 school buses.

New Mexico, City of Albuquerque - \$583,125 to upgrade ground support equipment at the city's airport. The project involves replacing 50 pieces of diesel-powered ground support equipment with electric equipment.

Louisiana, Baton Rouge area - \$2,927,496 by the Railroad Research Foundation to upgrade several locomotive engines. The project will improve rail operations in Baton Rouge, save fuel and significantly reduce emissions.

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Solar power systems sought for low-cost electrical power

Thirteen projects to be funded with \$52.5 million in DOE allocations

Solar power systems that can provide low-cost electrical power day and night will be eligible for \$52.5 million in U.S. Department of Energy funding. The Recovery Act funds will be used for research, development and demonstration of the systems. The goal is low-cost energy production and storage that allows solar energy to compete with conventional grid electricity. Federal officials expect such low-cost solar technologies will help the nation more quickly install technologies that include carbon-free, large-scale energy sources. Thirteen project awards are expected to be made and are based on continuing annual appropriations.

Concentrating Solar Power (CSP) technologies capture the sun's energy as heat that can drive an engine or turbine to produce electrical power. Also included are low-cost storage methods which allow the electricity to be available even when the sun isn't shining. Today's CSP technologies do not include the ability to store that energy.

The funding will be awarded for planning and development of systems that will store enough power to be able to operate an average of 18 hours per day. This competitive funding includes:

- Research and development of concepts and components for a CSP system that enables a plant to produce low-cost electricity at least 18 hours of the day.
- Evaluation of the feasibility and development of a prototype complete CSP system capable of operating at least 18 hours per day while generating low-cost power.

Four communities to share renewable energy funding

\$22 million to support planning, installation of renewable energy projects

Up to four communities nationwide will be able to share in \$22 million in American Recovery and Reinvestment Act funding for community renewable energy deployment. The funds are administered by the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) and can be used to support planning and installation of utility-scale community renewable energy projects.

The projects selected will benefit from technical assistance provided by the DOE's Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy. That office can assist with concepts, best practices, planning, financial approaches, policy guidance and recognition. That assistance is aimed at assisting communities toward a rapid planning and deployment of systems that will help provide clean energy sources for their communities while creating jobs and positively affecting the local economy. Projects are expected to include solar, wind, biomass and geothermal systems.

The \$22 million in funding will be available for Fiscal Year 2010. Matching funds from public and private investment should double that figure. DOE is hopeful the projects could help eliminate 50,000 tons of carbon dioxide annually.

Applications are due Sept. 3 and awardees are expected to be named by November. The funding will be to support implementation of an integrated renewable energy deployment plan for the community and the construction of systems to support that renewable energy source. For more information, click [HERE](#).

Follow the money

Forest facilities, trails to benefit from \$274 million in funding

Forest facilities and trails and their related ecosystems and watersheds will get an economic shot in the arm as a result of \$274 million in Recovery Act funding announced by the U.S. Department of Agriculture. The money will be spread among 191 projects located on U.S. Forest Service lands in 32 states.

The Forest Service Trails System provides miles of trails throughout the country used by hikers, horseback riders, mountain bikers, cross-country skiers, snowmobilers, hunters, fishing enthusiasts and all-terrain vehicle riders. Trail maintenance activities include clearing fallen trees, repairing trail signs, improving water drainage, maintaining bridges, reducing erosion, repairing trail head and parking areas and trail decommissioning that eliminates unneeded trails.

Related ecosystem and watershed projects will ensure that areas receiving high visitation are repaired and restored. California landed the largest funding amount with \$76,732,000 for 10 projects. Oregon was next with \$28,948,000 to fund 12 projects.

To view the list of trail projects by state and the list of facilities projects by state, click [HERE](#) and look under "Recent Reports."

Stimulus news briefs

\$250 million for water, wastewater projects in rural areas approved

Nearly three dozen more rural water and wastewater infrastructure projects in 17 states will be funded from the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Recovery Act funding. Projects totaling \$250 million have been funded, bringing the Recovery Act investments in such projects to more than \$1 billion. The projects are geared to providing safe drinking water and improved wastewater treatment systems in rural areas of 17 states, Guam and Puerto Rico.

The program provides low-interest loans and grants to protect the health of the environment and the public. Some of the big winners in this round of funding include: the Hampton (Michigan) Township, which was awarded a \$13.2 million loan and a \$4.7 million grant for sewage projects; the town of Farmington (New Hampshire), which was approved for a \$4.6 million loan and a \$5.8 million grant for sewage projects; and the North Lenoir (North Carolina) Water Corporation, which was approved for a \$3.1 million loan and a \$2.6 million grant for water projects.

To view a complete list of projects approved for funding, click [HERE](#) and go to "Recent Reports."

Other national news

Recovery money set aside for algal biofuels

Seeking to bring together scientists and engineers from universities, private industry and government to develop methods to bring new biofuels to market quicker is the goal of the U.S. Department of Energy's availability of \$85 million in American Recovery and Reinvestment Act funds. The funds will be used for the development of algae-based biofuels and advanced, infrastructure-compatible biofuels.

The funds will allow for development of new technologies advanced biofuels for such uses as green aviation fuels, green gasoline and green diesel from numerous biomass feedstocks. The partnerships may engage end users and other experts such as utility specialists and aquaculturists. Some two to three partnerships are expected to be funded over three years targeting:

Algal Biofuels Research and Development - develop cost-effective algae-based biofuels that are competitive with traditional petroleum-based fuels.

Advanced, Infrastructure-Compatible Biofuels Research and Development - focused on enabling cost-effective conversion of biomass to advanced biofuels other than cellulosic ethanol, with particular focus on bio-based hydrocarbon fuels such as green gasoline and green diesel. The FOA is available at FedConnect and can be found by searching for Reference Number DE-FOA-0000123.

Calendar of events

State energy programs to be funded with \$162 million

From home energy audits to educating homeowners of the benefits of building energy-efficient new homes, seven states and territories will share more than \$162 million in Recovery Act funds for state energy programs. Projects will be funded in Colorado, Delaware, Indiana, Louisiana, Massachusetts, Pennsylvania and Puerto Rico.

The \$162 million is part of \$3.1 billion set aside in the Recovery Act for the State Energy Program to promote energy efficiency and clean energy deployment. The grant funds are used to create jobs and address state energy priorities. This money represents only part of the funding available. Another \$18 million will also be available.

To view each state's allocation and how it will be spent, click [HERE](#) and look under "Recent Reports."

What the states are doing

Twenty-eight wind energy projects to share \$13.8 million in funding

Twenty-eight wind energy projects have been selected for funding from the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Recovery Act funds. The projects relate to wind turbine research and testing and transmission analysis, planning and assessments. The projects will share \$13.8 million in funding, \$12.8 million of which is from the Recovery Act.

With the announcement of the projects awarded funding, DOE also released its [2008 Wind Technologies Market Report](#) that details a \$16 billion investment in wind projects last year in the United States. The report notes that wind power capacity increased by more than 8,500 megawatts last year, making the United States the fastest-growing wind power market in the world for the fourth consecutive year.

To view the 28 award recipients and amounts, click [HERE](#) and look under "Recent Reports."

What the states are doing

Indiana, New Mexico get weatherization funding

Weatherization programs in Indiana and New Mexico are the recipients of \$63 million in Recovery Act funding for expansion of their weatherization assistance programs. The goal of the program is to weatherize 22,400 more homes. Indiana received \$52.7 million to weatherize more than 19,700 homes over the next three years. The funding will allow local organizations to carry out home energy audits and weatherization assistance. These allocations represent only 40 percent of available funding, with the final part to be received after certain benchmarks are met. New Mexico was awarded \$10,742,242 to weatherize more than 2,700 homes in the next three years, providing weatherization assistance in all 33 of the state's counties.

After demonstrating successful implementation of its plan, the state will receive over \$13 million in additional funding, for a total of nearly \$27 million.

Other national news

Forums being held regarding broadband grants from recovery funds

Eight of 10 public forums to help would-be grantees apply for \$4 billion in broadband grants through the Recovery Act have been held, with the last two slated for Thursday in Albuquerque, New Mexico, and Friday in Los Angeles, California.

The broadband grants are intended to bring that service to unserved or under-served areas of the country. The first round of funding will expand broadband access and help bridge the technological divide while creating jobs setting up the Internet infrastructure.

The workshops include an overview of that first round of funding under the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program (BTOP) and grants and loans through the Broadband Initiative Program (BIP). Those attending the workshops will receive assistance regarding the application process. Some \$7.2 billion has been made available to the U.S. Department of Commerce and the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) to speed up broadband service to areas previously without high-speed infrastructure. The USDA service will invest \$2.5 billion to facilitate broadband development in rural communities.

Calendar of events

Delaware

Delaware has unveiled the first of 81 Amtrak passenger cars being restored with Recovery Act funding. The car was damaged in a collision several years ago but has since been completely refurbished and was rolled out in the city of Bear. The cost of restoration was approximately \$687,000. Cars being brought out of storage for repairs will benefit from the \$1.3 billion in stimulus funds dedicated to Amtrak.

Texas

Texas' premier academic institution, Rice University, has received an \$11 million Recovery Act grant to help build a new physics building. The funding through the U.S. Department of Commerce's National Institute of Standards and Technology will be matched by \$33.4 million from the university. The cost of the 110,000-square-foot building is expected to be \$44.5 million. The facility will support research in areas such as nanoscale science and technology, atomic physics, quantum physics, optical technology, electron and optical physics, microelectronics, semiconductor electronics and biophysics. The funds are part of stimulus money earmarked funding for construction of new or expanded research science buildings.

Maryland

Twenty-nine Maryland arts organizations will receive grant funding from the \$900,000 awarded to the state from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. Among the grant recipients are the Maryland Historical Society and the Black Cherry Puppet Theater in Baltimore. Officials expect the additional funds to help retain some 40 jobs. Ten other Maryland arts groups will be funded through the National Endowment for the Arts.

California

San Diego County and Chula Vista in California plan to use their \$8 million in stimulus funds from the U.S. Justice Department to help fight crime and drug trafficking along the border. San Diego County's share of the funding is \$5 million while Chula Vista garnered \$2.9 million from the Southwest Border Strategy. The Chula Vista police will use the funds to support task force efforts to gather intelligence on cross-border violence. San Diego County will add 16 uniformed officers to patrol the border and fund a district attorney dedicated to prosecuting those apprehended.

Michigan

Nearly 100 Michigan law enforcement agencies will share in \$41 million in Recovery Act funding. The grants will be used for everything from technology upgrades to community policing efforts. Some officers who might otherwise have been laid off will also be retained in some departments.

Illinois

In Chicago, most of the Recovery Act funding dedicated for transportation projects is being spent on repair and rehabilitation of existing roadways. The state garnered \$935 million in recovery funding, and nearly 75 percent of that funding has gone to road paving and other such projects, according to the U.S. Department of Transportation. In bridges in Illinois, too, are benefiting from stimulus funds, with money being spent on repairs, upgrades and, in some cases, new construction. A survey showed that more than 50 percent of the state's roads were in need of repair and more than 800 bridges were found to be structurally deficient. Among the projects is a \$29 million reconstruction project involving an interchange east of St. Louis.

Pennsylvania

In Pennsylvania, the city of Philadelphia is expected to apply for \$25 million to \$35 million in Recovery Act funding that could lead to extending broadband Internet access to rural northern areas. The funds would primarily serve counties above the I-80 corridor as well as in poor urban areas, which could include more service at area libraries.

Florida

Florida's University of Miami has received a \$15 million grant to help its marine science school build a research facility. The university was one of four to receive such funding from the U.S. Commerce Department's National Institute of Standards and Technology. The grant is expected to pay for about a third of the cost of the 56,500-square-foot facility to be used to study coastal areas, hurricanes and marine biology with the use of seawater laboratories.

Georgia

The Atlanta, Georgia, rail system will be the big winner when \$7.8 million in stimulus funds for transit improvements is allocated. MARTA will get \$7.4 million of the total for upgrade and replacement of the fire protection system for rail stations, lines and facilities. Henry County will receive more than \$427,000 for two 16-passenger buses and one 15-passenger van. Communications equipment, software, security radios and cameras will be updated as well.

Arizona

Arizona plans to spend nearly \$30 million in Recovery Act funds on road improvements throughout the state. Tucson will receive \$16 million to start construction of one phase of a bus storage and maintenance facility for its mass transit provider while the Arizona Department of Transportation will have \$12 million to purchase 34 new buses and two support vehicles. New transit facilities will also be built while existing facilities will be expanded and remodeled. Another \$1.2 million will be used by the Northern Arizona Intergovernmental Transportation Authority to buy a hybrid electric bus and four shelters for bus passengers.

Pennsylvania

The nearly \$40 million in stimulus funds headed to Pennsylvania for state energy programs will be split for both grants and loans to businesses, governments, utilities and nonprofits to help them make their buildings and equipment more "green." A revolving loan fund called Green Development Loan Program will make loans and awards for clean energy technologies and energy-efficient facilities projects. Projects can include energy audits, building retrofits, education, training and more.

Other national news

Funding available for bioenergy development, production

Up to \$50 million is being made available by the U.S. Department of Agriculture from the 2008 Farm Bill for projects to promote the continued production and use of biofuels. The funding includes \$20 million for financial incentives to biorefineries to replace fossil fuels with renewable biomass to produce heat or power at their facilities and \$30 million to provide payments to eligible advanced biofuel producers to encourage increased production and use of biofuels.

Applications for the advanced biofuels program are due Aug. 11; applications for the biorefineries to replace fossil fuels are due Nov. 1. Biorefineries and advanced biofuel biorefineries must be located in a rural area and must have been in operation before June of this year. For more information click [HERE](#).

Calendar of events

New York considers WiFi for commuter rail lines

While it's only exploratory at this point, the New York State Metropolitan Transportation Authority has issued a request for expressions of interest that could lead to providing wireless service on the two largest commuter rail lines in the country. Officials are seeking submissions from wireless broadband vendors for technology options and the long Island Railroad for such a project. The interest is in providing wireless coverage at stations and in cars on the Long Island Railroad that runs between New York City and northern suburban areas. The Metro-North Commuter Railroad, which runs between New York City and northern suburban areas. The city expects it might grant a license for the development of a commercial network. Responses to the New York Metropolitan Transportation Authority's request for information are due on Sept. 1.

USDA offers direct farm ownership, operating loans

Direct farm ownership and operating loans totaling \$760 million are available from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) following signing of the Supplemental Appropriations Act. These previously approved but unfunded loans will help farmers and ranchers throughout the country meet their capital needs.

Some \$400 million has already been provided to state offices by the USDA for direct operating loans. These funds will clear a backlog of loans previously approved for some 2,200 farmers and provide additional funding for new loan applications. The final \$360 million will be made available for direct farm ownership loans through the USDA's Farm Service Agency. There are currently \$322 million in unfunded loans approved for 1,800 family farmers. The Direct Farm Ownership loans can be used to buy farmland, construct or repair buildings and other fixtures and promote soil and water conservation. The operating loans can be used to purchase livestock, farm equipment, feed, seed, fuel, farm chemicals, insurance and other operating expenses. They can also be used to pay for minor improvements to buildings, costs associated with land and water development, family subsistence and to refinance debts under certain conditions. The maximum amount for either type of loan is \$300,000. For more information, click [HERE](#).

Calendar of events

DOE Webcast addresses renewable energy's economic impact

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) will host a Webcast for state and local officials on "How to Estimate the Economic Impacts from Renewable Energy." The Webcast is part of DOE's Technical Assistance Project offerings on the use of a DOE tool to estimate the economic impacts from electric power projects, including renewable energy generation. The Webcast will be on Wednesday, July 29, from 3 to 4:15 p.m. EDT and will feature Gail Mosey and Eric Lantz from the DOE National Renewable Energy Lab. Attendees will learn how to use an online economic model - called Jobs and Economic Development Impacts (JEDI) - to predict the economic development impacts of renewable energy in their states. The Webcast is free but attendees must register in advance to obtain a link for the presentation and the call-in phone number. For more information and to register, click [HERE](#).

Webinar will feature discussion of E-Scale

A tool for helping homeowners determine the best direction for energy efficiency when purchasing, renting or updating a home will be discussed in a U.S. Department of Energy Webinar on Tuesday, July 28. The event will run from 12 to 1 p.m. EDT and will feature Edward Pollock, BTP residential team lead, and David Roberts, National Renewable Energy Laboratory senior engineer. Titled "Measuring and Labeling Home Energy Performance with EnergySmart Home Scale (E-Scale)," the Webinar will provide an opportunity to discuss benefits of the E-Scale for the home building, buying or selling homes. The Webcast is free, but attendees must [REGISTER](#) to receive the URL for the presentation and the call-in number. For more information, click [HERE](#).

Calendar of events

Don't miss out on another issue!

Many of our subscribers forward this newsletter to co-workers and associates. If you are not a subscriber, but would like to continue receiving this free newsletter each week, please click [HERE](#) to subscribe.

All 50 states have own recovery Web sites

All 50 of the states and the District of Columbia now have their own "recovery" sites where citizens can track where ARRA dollars are being spent in their respective states. The states are charged with ensuring accountability and transparency in how the funds are spent and their Web sites show the projects being funded and the amount of ARRA funds allocated. For links to each of the state and District of Columbia recovery Web sites, [HERE](#).

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act is an unprecedented infusion of \$787 billion into a flailing United States economy. The ARRA is designed to create or save millions of jobs and to address pressing needs throughout the country, from education to infrastructure. To view the bill as passed by the U.S. House and Senate and signed by President Barack Obama, [HERE](#).

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The State and Local Government Pipeline is a free, weekly, national e-newsletter detailing important happenings throughout the country and the premier source for state and local government news and contracting opportunities.

Publisher: Mary Scott Nabers

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