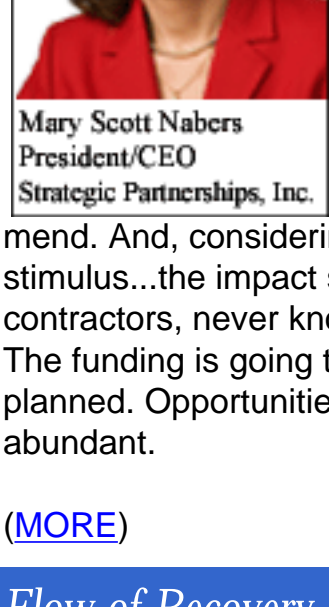


**Federal stimulus funding moving slower than anticipated**

**IN THIS ISSUE**



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While many citizens grumble daily and loudly about federal stimulus spending, others grumble about the fact that the flow of stimulus funding to the states is moving very slowly. According to federal data as of Oct. 30, only \$207.38 billion of the \$787 billion in stimulus funding has left the government's coffers. That leaves \$579.62 billion that has yet to be allocated...and that is a staggering amount of money.

The nation's overall economy is definitely on the mend. And, considering the money left to be used for economic stimulus...the impact should be large and positive. Government contractors, never known for patience, should really try hard to stay calm. The funding is going to reach individual states and it will be spent as planned. Opportunities for contracting with public entities will be abundant.

(MORE)

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**Flow of Recovery Act dollars slowed - but there's a reason**

**More than \$500 billion in funding still making its way through process**

If it seems like the flow of money from the federal Recovery Act to the states has slowed to a trickle - it has. But there's a reason.

According to the federal government's Web site that tracks American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) dollars, [Recovery.gov](#), as of Oct. 30, only \$207 billion of the \$787 billion in the act has been paid out. That leaves \$580 billion Recovery Act dollars that have not yet made their way to states, local governments, public and higher education, healthcare, nonprofits and others.

For example, one state has been notified it has access to \$13.7 billion that will be funneled through state agencies. However, according to officials of that state's comptroller's office, to date only \$4.1 billion of that total has actually made its way to the state. This funding also does not include money that has been allocated directly to cities, as the state tracks only money distributed to its own agencies.

"In many situations, programs are having to be put in place to use this money," said a spokesman for the agency, "and those programs have to be built within the stimulus act guidelines.

"As time moves on, we'll see more of the awarded money being drawn down by the state."

Many agencies may have applied for money that has not yet been released, said the spokesman, while other agencies have money that has been made available to them that will be competitively awarded. So those agencies may have only recently released requests for applications for some of the funding. The same apparently is true for many other states.

"There's a lot of money moving through the (act's) timeline process," said the spokesman, and there's a lot more to come.

**Industrial energy efficiency projects to share \$155 million**

**Goal is reduced energy use, reduced carbon pollution**

Industrial energy efficiency projects throughout the nation will be the recipients of a total of \$155 million in Recovery Act funding announced this week. Forty-one projects have been awarded funds that deal with industrial combined heat and power systems, district energy systems for industrial facilities and grants for technical and financial assistance to local industry. The projects are expected to make energy efficiency technologies more widely available, cut energy usage and reduce carbon pollution.

Nine projects will promote the use of combined heat and power, district energy systems, waste energy recovery systems and energy efficiency initiatives in hospitals, utilities and industrial sites. These systems can be nearly twice as efficient as conventional heat and power production. These awards total close to \$150 million and will be leveraged by \$634 million in private industry cost-share for a total project value of up to \$785 million.

The other 32 projects funded will provide local technical support for the industrial sector through university-based Industrial Assessment Centers, state agencies, regional partnerships and a national technical assistance provider. Among them are a \$10 million award to Texas Medical Center Central Heating and Cooling Services Company in Houston to build a Combined Heat and Power facility at its existing district heating plant, serving the largest medical center in the world. Verso Paper Corp. was awarded more than \$9.3 million for immediate deployment of waste energy recovery technologies at multiple sites. The New Jersey Industrial Energy Program was awarded \$350,000 to provide energy assessments, technical assistance and technology deployment to reduce the energy intensity of New Jersey manufacturers. To view a complete list of funding recipients, click [HERE](#) and look under "Recent Reports."

**Funding available for geothermal technology projects**

**Up to \$338 million being made available for initiatives in 39 states**

Nearly 125 projects in 39 states will be supported by up to \$338 million in American Recovery and Reinvestment Act funds for exploration and development of new geothermal fields and research into advanced geothermal technologies. The funds will be administered by the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE). Recipients include private industry, academic institutions, tribal entities, local governments and DOE's national laboratories. The funds will be matched more than one-for-one with private and non-federal cost-share funds.

The grants will be used to identify and develop new geothermal fields and will support deployment and creative financing approaches for ground-source heat pump demonstrations. Officials expect the results to be not only expansion of the industry, but also the creation or saving of thousands of jobs in drilling, exploration, construction and operation of geothermal power facilities. Grant awards will be in six categories:

- **Innovative exploration and drilling projects** - up to \$98.1 million - 24 projects focus on the development of new geothermal fields using innovative sensing, exploration and well-drilling technologies.
- **Co-produced, geo-pressured, and low temperature projects** - up to \$20.7 million - 11 projects have been selected for the development of new low-temperature geothermal fields.
- **Enhanced geothermal systems demonstrations** - up to \$51.4 million - Three projects will explore, drill and develop enhanced geothermal systems to validate power production from deep hot rock resources using innovative technologies and approaches.
- **Enhanced geothermal systems components research and development/analysis** - up to \$81.5 million - 45 projects will focus on research and development of new technologies to find and drill into deep hot rock formations, stimulate enhanced geothermal reservoirs and convert the heat to power.
- **Geothermal data development, collection and maintenance** - up to \$24.6 million - Three projects selected for the population of a comprehensive nationwide geothermal resource database to help identify and assess new fields.
- **Ground source heat pump demonstrations** - up to \$61.9 million - 37 projects to demonstrate deployment of ground source heat pumps for heating and cooling of a variety of buildings, including academic institutions, local governments and commercial buildings.

**Broadband grant awards to be delayed until December**

**Officials concerned rural areas may be nudged out of competition**

Having received approximately 2,200 applications for the first round of broadband federal stimulus grants has forced officials to delay until December the awarding of these grants. They cite not only the large number of applications received, but also the complexity of the grants and thus the time it takes to sift through and study recipient winnings. Some \$7.2 billion in stimulus funds has been set aside for broadband funding.

Officials note they are considering changes to the program, which could delay the next application deadline so changes can be made that will allow more rural areas to participate and compete for some of the funding. Some legislators have questioned whether small companies serving rural areas would find the application process unwieldy and costly.

That action should push back the completion of the awarding of the first part of the funding until sometime in February. Original plans were to have all of the awards completed by the end of this year. The 2,200 applications sought some \$28 billion in funding, nearly four times as much as was available. Hundreds of volunteers have been enlisted to help with the application review process. By law, all of the \$7.2 billion must be awarded by Sept. 20, 2010.

**What the states are doing**

**Florida** is applying for some \$268 million in Recovery Act funds to allow Amtrak passenger trains to use the Florida East Coast Railway line, which would connect Florida East Coast cities without Amtrak through the existing Miami-Tampa-Orlando-Jacksonville line. The state expects to know by the end of the year if it will grant funding of \$2.6 billion for a high-speed passenger rail line along I-4 between Tampa and Orlando. Another \$30 million is being sought to begin the engineering work for a high-speed rail line between Orlando and Miami. That line could cost as much as \$8 billion.

The State of **Kentucky** will benefit from \$850,000 in Recovery Act funding for a program that encourages energy efficiency on farms. The program will provide a 25 percent reimbursement of the cost of federally qualified energy saving items up to \$10,000. That includes energy audits, energy-efficient farm building components, on-farm energy upgrades and energy efficiency training.

The **Pennsylvania** Department of Transportation has budgeted \$820 million over the next 10 years to replace 117,000 handicapped curb ramps along state roads. This year, \$28 million of the costs will be paid for by federal Recovery Act funds. Thousands of ramps in Erie and Meadville will be installed in the next several years.

A \$5 million federal stimulus funds award has been made to the Northern Virginia Electric Cooperative in Manassas, **Virginia**, to deploy "smart grid" technology to improve the efficiency and reliability of its distribution system. The technology will enable the company to receive real-time data on the conditions and status of the grid, information that has been previously collected on a monthly basis. The system will also allow company officials to gather the data from a remote location, cutting down on staff time and the number of vehicles on the road.

Greening up Honolulu, **Hawaii**, is how \$3.8 million in U.S. Department of Energy funds will be used through an energy efficiency and conservation block grant. These grants are used to improve energy efficiency in communities and reduce energy usage and fossil fuel emissions. The grants can be used for such projects as home and business energy audits and building retrofits, development of advanced building codes and creation of financial incentive programs for energy-efficient improvements.

The State of **Nevada** is planning how to use its nearly \$201 million in Recovery Act funding earmarked for roads and other transportation projects. Nevada has garnered approximately 63 percent of Federal Highway Administration funding. So far, only \$104.7 million of that total has been appropriated for just over two dozen projects. That includes \$66.3 million set aside for rural areas, only \$16.2 million of which has been spent so far. Among the recipients of spending are Clark County with \$24.1 million in projects, Humboldt County with \$7 million in funding. Many roadways are being repaved.

After saving \$5 million in Recovery Act funds on a highway construction project in Fort Myers, Lee County, **Florida**, county officials have decided to use \$1 million of the savings for long-awaited sidewalks in Cape Coral. The projects include Cape Coral Parkway from Aguilinda Boulevard to Southwest 16th Place, Beach Parkway from Surfside Boulevard to Chiquita Boulevard and Nicholas Parkway from Pine Island Road to Santa Barbara Boulevard.

Two public school districts in **Arkansas** have been tagged to receive \$3.3 million in stimulus money for energy retrofits. The Newport and Cedarville districts will use the funding to increase energy efficiency by retrofitting heating and cooling systems at a number of schools and thus reduce utility costs. A ground-source heat-pump heating and cooling system will be installed at Newport High School.

New equipment and new materials will be purchased with stimulus funds for pre-kindergarten classes in Atlanta, **Georgia**. The schools will share \$1.7 million in funds to replace outdated supplies for the 82,000 children in the state's pre-K program.

Two public housing facilities in Salt Lake Valley, **Utah**, will use \$2.5 million in recovery funding made to the agencies that run them for numerous upgrades. The upgrades include culinary water systems, energy-efficient toilets, shower heads, windows and sliding glass doors. The result will be decreased water usage and a savings on heating and cooling costs. Contracts are expected to be awarded before the end of the year and the projects are expected to take two years to complete.

The **Kentucky** Department of Corrections has received \$2 million in stimulus funding to purchase surveillance cameras to be installed in state prisons.

New books for the Abbeville, **South Carolina**, county library system will be paid for with nearly \$11,000 in stimulus funds. The money will also pay for additional library operations.

Three **Hawaii** state departments will see that \$6 million in Recovery Funds are used properly to conduct energy efficiency and renewable energy projects. Among the projects will be a \$3 million program to increase energy efficiency - by installing solar water heaters and compact fluorescent lamps in some 400 homesteads. Another \$3 million will be used to install photovoltaics on state buildings.

The state of **Vermont** plans to use its \$69 million "smart grid" grant to install electric meters at nearly every residence and business in the state that does not already have them. The meters can record information in real time rather than having to have meter readers read the information.

A one of nine resource and training center will be developed in **California** from \$3.5 million in recovery funding. It will be regional in nature and that are part of the Installer Instructor Training Network. A training curriculum will be designed and professional development will be available for trainers in photovoltaic and solar heating and cooling technology.

A number of environmental projects for towns and sanitary districts in **Illinois** will be funded by recovery funding. The funding will be used to promote environmental projects to improve drinking water quality. They range from \$1.137 million to Aurora for three major water line replacements to a \$7.9 million loan to Charleston to construct a variety of improvements to the city's wastewater treatment plant. Other projects include funding for sanitary sewer collection systems, installation of pump stations and new wastewater treatment facilities and replacement of aging equipment.

More than 1,000 residents of **Pennsylvania** can soon seek to become weatherization installers, crew chiefs and auditors thanks to a \$1.1 million investment of Recovery Act funds to provide education and training.

City officials in Deltona, **Florida**, are hoping to secure between \$2 million and \$4 million in stimulus funds to train residents to work in the solar energy industry. The funds would be part of the \$500 million set aside by the federal Recovery Act for green jobs training. Participants would be trained for such tasks as installing solar-powered water heaters, installing solar electric systems in homes and retrofitting older homes to become more energy-efficient.

**Other national news**

**Oklahoma environmental agency gets \$13 million**

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has awarded \$13.151 million to the Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality to provide loan assistance to eligible public water systems for infrastructure improvements needed to ensure safe drinking water. The following types of set-aside activities will also be funded: administrative, small systems/technical assistance, state programs management and local assistance.

**Funds will help build New Orleans detention center**

The cost of a new detention center in New Orleans will be aided by a \$56.6 million allocation to the Louisiana Parish Sheriff's Office from the Federal Emergency Management Agency and the Louisiana Recovery Authority. The parish, along with its detention center, suffered heavy damages during Hurricane Katrina. There is nothing left of the center except the land on which it stood. The new facility will be built with an emphasis on structural changes that will help withstand future storms.

The old facility was a one-story, 800-bed facility. Officials said the building was 98 percent destroyed. The new facility will be built on the same land but at a higher elevation. It will include a public lobby for visitors, an administration and intake office, medical, inmate and facility service areas and an exercise area for inmates. This \$56.6 million infusion brings the total for demolition and removal and reconstruction of the facility to \$74.9 million.

**Money made available to Louisiana parish for road restoration**

The St. Bernard Parish roadway restoration project got a \$70.6 million shot in the arm recently from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), the Louisiana Recovery Authority and the Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness. These funds came only three months after the three entities awarded \$13.8 million toward the project.

These funds will help repair transportation infrastructure damaged during Hurricane Katrina. Hundreds of miles of streets were assessed and it was determined the parish qualified for more rehabilitation, the repair and replacement funding. FEMA already has provided \$84.4 million in public assistance for the roadway restoration project.

**Oklahoma, New Mexico tribes garner funding for water programs**

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has awarded funding to four tribes in Oklahoma and New Mexico for water programs. A total of \$75,169 went to the Ottawa Tribe in Oklahoma and another \$65,000 went to the Kiowa Tribe in Oklahoma, while \$65,000 was awarded to the Pueblo of Tesuque in New Mexico and \$100,000 went to the Pueblo of San Ildefonso in New Mexico, all to provide continued support for all of their water pollution control programs. Surface water sampling on Tribal lands will continue to determine if a more thorough watershed management program is needed to develop water quality standards. Data analysis after water sampling will determine if Tribal water quality needs are being met, note any changes in the quality or condition of the Tribe's water and understand and define the function and health of water stream ecosystems.

**Feds to build \$1.5 billion cyber-security data center**

A new data center with a price tag of \$1.5 billion will be built in Utah to support federal intelligence and defense agencies' cyber-security programs. The facility will be run by the National Security Agency at built at the Utah National Guard's Camp Williams, near Salt Lake City. The center will also be used for information assurance efforts related to U.S. Department of Defense networks and to provide technical assistance for the Homeland Security Department as it seeks to secure the government's civilian networks. The facility is expected to be one million square feet in size, with 100,000 square feet of data center space and the remaining 900,000 square feet being technical support and administrative space.

**EPA awards \$200,000 to Cherokee Nation for lead-based paint program**

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has awarded \$200,000 to the Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma to continue implementing a Lead-Based Paint Program authorized by EPA. The funds will be used to administer the program, provide training for inspectors, conduct inspections of licensed contractors engaged in lead-based paint activities and take appropriate enforcement actions when needed. The Cherokee Nation will continue to operate the program by conducting investigations, certification and accreditation, compliance and assistance and risk communication.

**Non-Recovery Act opportunities**

Officials in St. Augustine, **Florida**, have already cleared dozens of abandoned or seized properties near The Webster School and have installed water and sewer lines in anticipation of \$5 million in funding from the St. Johns County Housing Finance Authority. Once the funds are received, more than 100 homes will be built there. State money will be used for down payment assistance for low-to-moderate income families. Approved builders will be allowed to bid on homes, which will be sold after they are completed. "Green" technology and applications will be a part of the project as well.

A \$73.4 million bond election could be in the works in Noblesville, **Indiana**, as early as next May. The project would include 10 building projects, including increasing the size and updating four existing elementary schools.

City officials in San Diego, **California**, are studying building a new main library in the downtown area. They are hopeful bids will come in at or below the \$185 million estimate from four years ago. The nine-story structure would be twice the size of the current city library.

House rehabilitation and homeless assistance will get a boost in Sarasota, **Florida**, as the county is expected to receive more than \$1.4 million in Community Development Block Grant funds. Those funds are administered by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.



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**Calendar of events**

**National Brownfields conference slated Nov. 16-18**

The 13th National Brownfields Conference has been scheduled for Nov. 16-18 at New Orleans' Ernest N. Morial Convention Center. More than 6,000 environmental and economic development officials, finance and insurance providers, risk managers, planners, attorneys, civil engineers and students are expected to attend. The program features more than 150 panel sessions on green jobs and green remediation, creative financing and financial risk management, community and economic development, environmental assessment and cleanup, use of alternative energy to power the cleanup and redevelopment of properties, sustainability and more. There also will be more than 200 exhibitors. A display of the latest technologies and services, mobile workshops and walking tours of New Orleans are also included. The National Brownfields Conference is managed by the International City/County Management Association, in partnership with EPA. For more information and to register, click [HERE](#).

**Conference on Global Preparedness set in December**

The Third Annual Conference on Global Preparedness is set for Dec. 8-10 at the Melbourne Hilton Rialto Place in Melbourne, Fla. The event is hosted by the Florida Institute of Technology's Global Center for Preparedness. This year's event will feature speakers: Kay Goss, associate director of FEMA from 1994-2001 and now director of emergency management and crisis communications for SRA International; Yuki Karakawa from the International Association of Emergency Managers; Terry Gillette, president of Raytheon-SI; Lou Kratz, vice president and managing director, Logistics and Sustainment, Lockheed Martin Corp.; and representatives of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, the Florida National Guard and the Department of Homeland Security. Major topics will include emergency response and interoperability, the economy and preparedness, cyber-security and information assurance, human factors and secure technology. Presentations will show how these areas are interconnected to identify today's challenges. To register, contact Conference Administration at (321) 674-8342 or email [cgpinfo@fit.edu](mailto:cgpinfo@fit.edu). For more information, click [HERE](#).

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**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 sites 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](#).

**Six - the smallest perfect number**

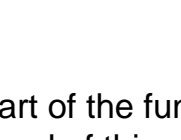
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