

Memorandum

Date: September 22, 2010

To: Climate, Energy and Environment Policy Committee (CEEPC)

From: Jeannine Altavilla, DEP Intern

Subject: **Database of Energy Related Contracts and Use of EECBG Funds**

Highlights

This summer COG staff conducted a survey of the use of EECBG funds in member jurisdictions and began to collect information for a database of energy-related contracts executed in entities that sit on the COG Chief Purchasing Officers Committee. The region received \$46 million in EECBG funding to be distributed for a range of projects. The energy-related contracts collected were placed in a searchable database that will be accessible on COG's website.

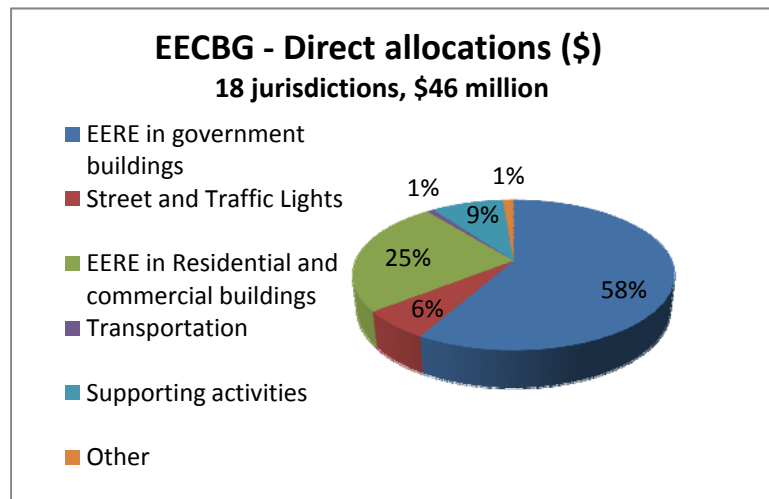
EECBG

COG member jurisdictions have distributed EECBG funding across eighty-nine projects approved by the Department of Energy. Area jurisdictions received a total of \$46 million dollars in EECBG grants. These projects cover a wide range of initiatives including energy efficiency and renewable energy in government, residential, and commercial buildings, street and traffic light improvements, transportation, and supporting activities.

Over three-quarters of the funds will be used to audit and improve existing buildings, with over half of the total EECBG funding reserved for government buildings. These audits will look at over 3,500 buildings in the region and will provide upgrades to over 70 government buildings. There are plans for at least 17 renewable energy installations on government facilities, including solar, wind, geothermal, and greenhouse gas capture. Outreach activities and inventories

constitute nine percent of the funding. Six percent of the funds are allocated for street and traffic light upgrades, reaching thousands of traffic, street, and parking lights. Little funding was reserved for transportation projects, but at least 14 hybrid vehicles will be purchased. The breakdown of funding for each category can be viewed in the accompanying chart.

At the time reported, completed projects accounted for 2.4% of the funds. These projects were



largely audit or planning services. A further 37% of the funds were associated with projects that were close to bidding or in contract negotiations when reported; these projects covered spectrum of categories.

Energy Contracts

Currently there are 50 contracts in the database from 12 entities, with an additional 10 entities reporting that they had no applicable contracts. Most contracts were received from the survey, but several were gathered through jurisdictions’ online databases. Contract amounts were not obtained for most contracts because many secured prices for a good or service rather than establishing a total contract price.

The contact person for each entity was not always located in the same department, making it difficult to compile a list of the best contacts. In some entities the purchasing department replied and in others the response came from those administering the actual projects. It would be helpful to have input on which department to contact, and whether a director or general purchasing agent should be contacted first.

A quarter of the contracts in the directory pertain to energy efficiency and renewable energy in government buildings. An additional quarter of the contracts are for supporting services to conduct greenhouse gas inventories, develop energy strategies, or provide outreach materials and efforts in the community. One-fifth of the contracts are for the purchase of hybrid electric vehicles. Fourteen percent of the contracts are for purchasing new street and traffic light equipment. One-tenth of the contracts relate to energy efficiency and renewable energy in residential or commercial facilities. See the table below for a view of the area breakdown.

This database includes the details for nine contracts in Loudoun County that have not been bid yet, but are funded by EECBG grants and will hopefully be released soon.

The contract and contact information gathered in this search will be available in a database located on MWCOG’s website. The listings will be searchable and contain contact information for further information and collaboration opportunities. As more applicable contracts are signed they can be uploaded into the database. The system is currently set up to be accessible only to those with a username and password approved by COG. This set-up allows those with accounts to input information about new contracts as it becomes available. The database could become public, with additional contracts sent from project managers to be uploaded by COG.

| Area | Number of Contracts |
|---|----------------------------|
| Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy- Government Buildings | 13 |
| Street Lights | 7 |
| Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy- Residential and Commercial Buildings | 5 |
| Transportation | 10 |
| Supporting Activities | 13 |
| Other | 2 |
| TOTAL | 50 |