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Applied Solutions Update: Efficiency Utilities

Applied Solutions is working with a number of organizations at the federal level to establish a program to fund a national system of Efficiency Utilities. Efficiency Utilities are a governance mechanism to allow the financing of energy and water efficiency programs and well as develop and sell renewable energy. Generally owned and operated for the public good, Efficiency Utilities are designed to provide services in the public interest, not for the benefit of shareholders. Ultimately Efficiency Utilities provide an opportunity for extraordinary local economic development through providing the opportunity for permanent reduction in public costs for electricity and natural gas utilities while building local projects and providing local jobs.

For more information, go to http://appliedsolutions.org/content/applied-solutions-releases-efficiency-utilities-concept-document or contact Amy.Bolten@scwa.ca.gov
Presidential Memo Calls for Fuel Efficient Vehicles

On May 24th, President Obama issued a Presidential Memorandum calling for all light duty vehicles that will be leased or purchased by federal agencies to be alternative fueled vehicles by the end of 2015. Alternative fueled vehicles include hybrid, electric, compressed natural gas or biofuel powered vehicles. The memo also calls for federal fleet vehicles to be located near fueling stations that can supply alternative fuels, in an effort to encourage commercial development of alternative fueling stations.

To kick-start this new initiative, the Obama administration announced it will be buying more than 100 Chevrolet Volts and other electric cars. Energy Secretary Steven Chu said that this was an important symbol of the administration's commitment to reducing the United States' dependence on foreign oil. The government will also be installing 100 electric vehicle charging stations in five cities: Washington, Detroit, Los Angeles, San Diego and San Francisco.


Green Bonds Could Help Spur Green Economy

Green bonds could raise hundreds of billions of dollars a year to spur a shift to cleaner economic growth if governments set strong environmental goals such as for slowing climate change, the OECD said on Wednesday. In a review of efforts to promote greener growth, it urged more innovation to favor investments in clean energies such as wind or solar power and a drive to place more value on everything from public health to clean water.

The OECD report said there were some signs of progress toward greening the world economy, such as a surge in patents for clean energy technologies. "Green technology development is accelerating in some areas," it said. It pointed to a 24 percent rise in the number of patented inventions for renewable energies from 1999-2008, a 20 percent gain for patents for electric and hybrid vehicles and an 11 percent gain for energy efficiency in buildings and lighting. The OECD said the world needed to widen economics beyond conventional yardsticks of gross domestic product (GDP) to include non-market values such as clean air and water, health and education or the diversity of animal and plant species.

To see the full story, go to [http://www.reuters.com/article/2011/05/25/us-economy-green-idUSTRE74O4S420110525](http://www.reuters.com/article/2011/05/25/us-economy-green-idUSTRE74O4S420110525)

Applied Solutions Attends Ceres Conference

In continuing to strengthen the base of tools for local governments in financing sustainable system, Applied Solutions attended the annual Ceres conference in Oakland, California May 11 and 12. Ceres is a non-profit organization of investors, environmental organizations and other public interest groups working with companies to address sustainability challenges such as global climate change and water scarcity. Emerging trends in investments in renewable energy, efficiency and water systems were presented. Applied Solutions continues to broaden our reach into networks across the spectrum for the benefit of our membership.

For more information about the conference, see the program for the conference at [http://www.ceres.org/conferences/program](http://www.ceres.org/conferences/program) or contact Amy Bolten at Amy.Bolten@scwa.ca.gov.
Grant: Feasibility Studies for Rural Renewables

Closing date: June 30, 2011
The U.S. Department of Agriculture requests proposals for Rural Energy for America Program - Feasibility. This program will provide support to agricultural producers and rural small businesses to conduct feasibility studies for renewable energy systems. $2 million expected to be available, up to 75 awards anticipated.
For more information, go to http://www.grants.gov/search/search.do?mode=VIEW&oppId=92533
Refer to Sol# RDBCP-11-REAP-FEASIBILITY.

Grant: Rural Energy Audits and Renewable Energy Development

Closing date: June 30, 2011
The U.S. Department of Agriculture requests proposals for Rural Energy for America Program - Energy Audit and Renewable Energy Development Assistance. This program will support energy audits and renewable energy development assistance. $2.8 million expected to be available, up to 30 awards anticipated.
For more information, go to http://www.grants.gov/search/search.do?mode=VIEW&oppId=92633.
Refer to Sol# RDBCP-11-REAP-ENERGYAUDIT.

Grant: Rural Renewable Systems and Energy Efficiency Improvements

Closing date: June 15, 2011
The U.S. Department of Agriculture requests proposals for Rural Energy for America Program - Renewable Energy Systems and Energy Efficiency Improvements and Guaranteed Loans. This program will provide grants and loans to agricultural producers and rural small businesses to install renewable energy systems and energy efficiency improvements. More than $51 million expected to be available, individual awards not to exceed $500K.
For more information, go to http://www.grants.gov/search/search.do?mode=VIEW&oppId=92653.
Refer to Sol# RDBCP-11-REAP-RES-EEI.
Grant: Geothermal Technology Advancement

RFP will be issued in early June
The U.S. Department of Energy announces its intent to request proposals for Geothermal Technology Advancement for Rapid Development of Resources in the U.S. Areas of interest include: Advanced Exploratory Drilling Technologies; Advanced Well Completion Technologies; Zonal Isolation; Observation Tools and Data Collection System for Reservoir Stimulation; Geophysical Exploration Technologies; and Geochemistry/Rock-Fluid Interactions. The RFP will be issued on or about early June 2011, and will be posted at: https://eere-exchange.energy.gov/.

For more information, go to https://www.fedconnect.net/FedConnect/?doc=DE-FOA-0000547&agency=DOE.
Refer to Sol# DE-FOA-0000547.

Grant: Energy Research

Final proposal due: June 23, 2011
The U.S. Department of Energy requests proposals for the Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research Implementation Awards, for projects that improve research infrastructure in energy-related areas identified by participating state EPSCoR governing committees. $4 million expected to be available, up to 2 awards anticipated. Letters of Intent are requested, but not required, and are due 6/7/11, final proposals due 6/23/11.

For more information, including participating states, go to https://www.fedconnect.net/FedConnect/?doc=DE-FOA-0000546&agency=DOE.
Refer to Sol# DE-FOA-0000546.

Grant: The Jobs Innovation Accelerator Challenge

Final proposal due: July 7, 2011
Regions across the nation can compete for complementary Federal resources that will be targeted to address the gaps and opportunities specific to their self-identified, high-potential industry clusters. The Jobs Accelerator leverages existing financial and technical resources from 16 Federal agencies and bureaus to support the development of approximately 20 high-growth industry clusters selected through a competitive inter-agency grant process. Funds awarded to the winning applicants can be used to achieve measurable outcomes such as commercialization, business formation, expansion of existing businesses, job creation, and exports. Total proposed funding for the Jobs Accelerator is approximately $33 million in direct Federal support from funding agencies, subject to the availability of appropriations.

For more information go to http://www07.grants.gov/search/search.do;jsessionid=nrMZNbnGPTnwYLGGG8xY0hznZZRFJx5vT8YfbkcDJ5nn4j7TyRL3P!921374568?oppId=96013&mode=VIEW

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