

LOCAL GOVERNMENT GREENHOUSE GAS REDUCTION GRANT PROGRAM

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NJDEP Office of Planning and Sustainable Communities

Plan Pro-actively – Grow Sustainably

<http://www.nj.gov/dep/opsc/>

LOCAL GOVERNMENT GREENHOUSE GAS REDUCTION GRANT PROGRAM

RGGI is:

- A regional 10-state CO₂ cap-and-trade program for electric generation sector.
- Requires larger electric generating facilities to obtain allowances for emissions of CO₂.
- Proceeds of the RGGI auctions are to be used in accordance with the Global Warming Solutions Fund (GWSF) law, N.J.S.A. 26:2C-50 et seq.

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This grant program is an effort to move New Jersey closer to attaining its **statewide limits of reducing greenhouse gas emissions**

NJ GHG Limits

**Reduce emissions to 1990 levels by 2020, and
Reduce emissions 80 percent below 2006 emissions
levels by 2050**

www.nj.gov/dep/opsc/ghggrant.html



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The **NJ Global Warming Solutions Fund Act** allocates **10%** of the proceeds derived from **RGGI** to support programs that promote local government efforts to plan, develop and implement measures to reduce GHG emissions or implement energy efficiency, renewable energy, distributed energy programs, or land use planning, each of which is expected to result in a measurable reduction of GHG.

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Remaining Allocations of Global Warming Solutions Fund:

- 60% -- NJ Economic Development Authority -- encourage and promote energy efficiency measures within the commercial and industrial sectors and advance the use of renewable energy.
- 20% -- NJ Board of Public Utilities -- support programs that are designed to reduce electricity demand or costs to electricity customers in the low-income and moderate-income residential sector with a focus on urban areas
- 10% -- NJDEP -- support programs that enhance the stewardship and restoration of the State's forests and tidal marshes that provide important opportunities to sequester or reduce greenhouse gases.

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Only **local government agencies** are eligible to apply for funding, defined as:

- A contracting unit under the Local Public Contacts Law, i.e., **municipality, county or local authority**;
- A **Public School board of education** under the Public School Contracts Law; or
- A **county college** under the County College Contracts Law

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Funding Levels: **\$2.5 million** is being made available in this funding round.

Funding Limits - The maximum award to one local government agency in the current funding period is **\$300,000**.

Regional projects (i.e., joint applications by two or more local government agencies from different municipalities) are capped at **\$700,000**.

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Eligible Projects/Programs

Anticipated Per Project Budget Limit

- Greenhouse Gas Action Planning & Implementation \$10,000 - \$50,000
- Land Use Planning & Transportation \$25,000 - \$200,000
- Transportation System efficiency \$10,000 - \$150,000
- Green Infrastructure, Sequestration & Resource Conservation \$10,000 - \$75,000
- Strengthening Local Economies \$ 5,000 - \$50,000
- Outreach & Educational Campaigns \$ 5,000 - \$50,000
- Other – Highly Warming Gasses, Mini-Grants, etc. \$25,000

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Eligible Land Use Planning and Transportation Projects:

1. Amend Master Plan to Enact GHG reduction Actions
2. Implement Climate-Friendly Site Plan Review Standards
3. Implement Climate-Friendly Design Guidelines and Zoning
4. Implement Integrated Land Use and Circulation Plans aimed at reducing VMT
5. TDR to reduce VMT
6. Promote Non-Vehicular Mobility

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*Land Use Planning and Transportation
Projects should encourage reduction in
energy demand and GHG emissions by
modifying land use patterns and/or travel
modes so that VMT and VHT are reduced.*

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How can planners reduce Vehicle Miles travelled?

Provide convenient, attractive alternatives to driving

- Encourage a mix of uses
- Allow or require greater density
- Build sidewalks, bike paths and ensure pedestrian-friendly design
- Use traditional street design that connects neighborhoods with lots of intersections (not cul de sacs, gated communities)
- Special locations: within walking distance of transit stations

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Existing Actions / On-going Projects - Applications may request funding for proposed project expenses incurred after this Grant Program Announcement – June 8, 2009

Allowable Costs –equipment, materials, supplies, printing and professional services

Ineligible costs -costs for acquisition of real property and charges for time spent by local government employees and volunteers



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- **Applicants may contract** with private, public and non-profit organizations to obtain relevant professional planning and other technical expertise and assistance.
- **Supplemental Project Funding** - Supplemental funding for the proposed project from other sources must be disclosed. This requirement includes any proposed project funding from the NJ Clean Energy Program (NJ Board of Public Utilities).

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Application Process

1. Preliminary Application

Local government agencies interested in applying for funding must first submit a ***Preliminary Application of Interest (Pre-application)*** outlining the proposed project.

DUE: September 4, 2009 (extended from July 31)

www.nj.gov/dep/opsc/ghggrant.html



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2. Full Application

Projects deemed eligible by the Department will be invited to submit a Full Application. Projects must comply with all Federal and State Regulations / Laws.

Due: November 20, 2009

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Project Evaluation Criteria:

- Measurable Reductions in GHG emissions.
- Priority Scoring System in Global Warming Solutions Fund rule and Notice of Availability

Bonus Criteria (10 points):

- Sustainable Jersey
- Eligible Urban Aid Municipality

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Measuring GHG Reductions

- DEP is developing guidance for applicants on how to measure GHG reductions associated with specific actions listed in Eligible Project Table.
- Additional workshop on July 23. See website for information.

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E-mail Questions to: GHGGrants@dep.state.nj.us
www.nj.gov/dep/opsc/ghggrant.html

The web of mutual obligations between generations is essential for a civilized society. ~ Thomas Jefferson

