



The ARRA EAP

Energy Assurance Planning Bulletin

APRIL 2, 2012

THE AMERICAN RECOVERY AND REINVESTMENT ACT

VOLUME 3, NUMBER 2

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Alice Lippert, EAP Program Manager

Alice.Lippert@hq.doe.gov

OE Website

<http://www.oe.energy.gov>

Welcome to the tenth issue of the quarterly *Energy Assurance Planning Bulletin*, a service of the U.S. Department of Energy, Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability (DOE/OE). The *ARRA EAP Bulletin* provides information on energy assurance planning resources, upcoming events, training opportunities, and important grant deliverable dates.

Need to Know

DOE/OE, in conjunction with NASEO, will conduct the National Energy Assurance Conference June 28-29, 2012 at the Gaylord National Hotel and Convention Center, National Harbor, MD. This day and a half conference will culminate the DOE/OE's ongoing American Recovery & Reinvestment Act (ARRA) grant program to support State and Local Energy Assurance Planning efforts. State, local, and territory governments, federal agencies, the energy industry, private sector partners, trade associations, and non-profit organizations are invited to participate in the conference. Participants will have an opportunity to share experiences and obtain insight from experts on how to sustain and improve future energy assurance planning efforts. State and local governments are encouraged to extend this invitation to other agencies, organizations, and private partners with whom they coordinate energy assurance and emergency response activities. Invitations were recently sent out. Please contact Alice.Lippert@hq.doe.gov for more information.

Action Items

State Grantees:

Reminder: DOE/OE has sent a notice requesting permission from States to post their energy assurance plans on ISERnet, which will help disseminate best practices and lessons learned. DOE recommends that States take this valuable opportunity to share their plans with their fellow State planners to learn from each other's experiences and success stories. Please let us know if we may share your EAP; thank you to those who have already shared theirs!

State and Local Grantees:

Quarterly Reports (Progress Reports and SF-425) for grant activity January – March 2012 are due no later than April 30, 2012. Quarterly Reports are submitted via the EERE-PMC website: <https://www.eere-pmc.energy.gov/SubmitReports.aspx>.

The ARRA 1512 reporting cycle for the current quarter will begin April 1, 2012. ARRA 1512 reports are submitted via www.federalreporting.gov. For local grantees, further information and sample reporting templates are available at: www.energyassurance.us. Additional questions may be addressed by Attachment 3 (Federal Assistance Reporting Checklist) of the Assistance Agreement, or through contact with the DOE/NETL Project Officer. The DOE Recovery Act Clearinghouse is also available to answer reporting questions by phone at 888-DOE-RCVY (888-363-7289), Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Eastern Time, or via web at <https://recoveryclearinghouse.energy.gov/contactUs.htm>.

Energy Assurance Success Stories

West Virginia has completed the development of an Energy Supply Disruption Tracking Process. This tracking system and emergency contact database was developed with SharePoint capability, giving it accessibility from any electronic device capable of running a web browser. The database assists emergency officials in their efforts to track energy supply disruptions and provide quick access to information to assist in minimizing service restoration times. As part of the workforce development required under the SEAP, West Virginia has developed a series of courses for State and local emergency personnel on energy issues that were identified in the inter-state and intra-state exercises. An Energy Assurance Issues course was held this past fall at the West Virginia State Emergency Response Commission and Local Emergency Planning Committees Conference.

News from the States

California is Top Renewable State: A new ranking of States gives California the lead in terms of overall renewable energy suitability. The Ernst & Young *United States Attractiveness Indices (USAI)* provide scores for state renewable energy markets, renewable energy infrastructures and their suitability for individual technologies. In the latest report, California ranked first in long-term wind, long-term solar, and geothermal, and second in biomass.

Read more here: <http://www.ey.com/>

Upcoming Events

New Mexico State University (NMU) offers week-long courses specifically designed to capture the nuances of energy industries. The next courses, ***The Basics: Practical Regulatory Training for the Electric Industry*** and ***Natural Gas Local Distribution (LDC) Industry***, will be held May 13-18, 2012, in Albuquerque. More information is available at:

http://www.narucmeetings.org/EventDocuments/May%202012%20Basics_Electric_LDC.pdf.

SLTTGCC Spring Plenary: The State, Local, Tribal, and Territorial Government Coordinating Council will hold its ***Spring Plenary Session*** April 24-26, 2012, in Dallas. More information on the SLTTGCC is available at: http://www.dhs.gov/files/committees/gc_1177096698216.shtm.

The Association for Demand Response and Smart Grid will conduct its annual ***National Town Meeting on Demand Response and Smart Grid*** June 26-28, 2012 in Washington, DC. More information is available at: <http://www.demandresponsetownmeeting.com/home/>.

For additional information on upcoming events, visit:

- National Association of State Energy Officials – www.naseo.org
- National Conference of State Legislatures – www.ncsl.org
- National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners – www.naruc.org

Other Useful Information and Links

The Public Technology Institute (PTI) has recently published two new educational documents in support of local energy assurance: *Renewable Energy and Energy Assurance Planning for Local Governments* is available at http://dl.dropbox.com/u/14265518/leap/Renewable_Energy_Options_LEAP.pdf, and *A Guide to Financing Options and Funding Opportunities to Support Local Government Energy Assurance Planning* is available at <http://dl.dropbox.com/u/14265518/leap/LEAP-finance.pdf>.

Energy Emergency Assurance Coordinator (EEAC) Training – Online introductory training on the roles and responsibilities of the State EEAC is now available. If you are an EEAC or a State Energy Assurance Planner (SEAP), and were unable to participate in NASEO's training last November, you may want to watch this 30 minute webinar. This training is limited to EEAC and SEAP. If you would like to view the webinar please send an email to Jeff Pillon at NASEO at jpillon@naseo.org and indicate your State and whether you are an EEAC or an SEAP. Instruction will then be sent to you on how to access the webinar. Local Energy Assurance Planners (LEAP) may also request a copy of the webinar.

Expending Unallocated State EA Funds – The United States Department of Energy, Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability (DOE/OE), offers the following suggestions for initiatives that could be undertaken to appropriately expend unallocated State EA Grant funding.

- **Meetings** – Host a meeting (or meetings) for city or county government employees within the State to be briefed or trained on the implementation of the State Energy Assurance Plan. The State can invite all relevant agencies within the State and assist with travel costs for the local jurisdictions experiencing funding issues.
- **Pocket Guide** – Create an Energy Assurance "Pocket Guide," a high-level summary of the overall EAP condensed into a 10- to 15-page version for quick reference during an actual energy emergency.
- **Exercises** – Participate in or conduct more than one Energy Assurance Exercise (intra or inter State) to continue to test Energy Assurance Plans.
- **Disruption Tracking** – Automate or enhance a State's Energy Supply Disruption Tracking Process. Enhancements can be made through GIS capability.
- **Document Maintenance** – Hire personnel (possibly interns) to maintain documents and information such as the State EA Contact List.
- **Conferences** – Host an energy assurance conference for government employees and officials at the municipal, county, or State government levels to provide education on the State's energy assurance capabilities.
- **Feasibility Studies**
 - **Generators** – Perform a feasibility study to determine the optimal locations for generator placement on evacuation routes within the State — more common for a State in a hurricane-prone region.
 - **Fuel Set-Asides** – Determine how much fuel would need to be set aside to ensure the State gets priority during a fuel disruption. This initiative could be accomplished in-house by utilizing best practices from other States with an existing fuel set-aside program.
- **DVD or Webinar** – Create a DVD or webinar to share with local governments or relevant energy stakeholders within the State discussing the Energy Assurance Plan.

If all Deliverables and Reporting Requirements are complete, and unallocated funds still remain, grantees have the option to return unallocated funds. Contact your NETL Grant Administrator for more information.