

## **Recovery Act – Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grants – Formula Grants Funding Opportunity Number: DE-FOA-0000013**

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, Public Law 111-5, appropriates funding for the Department of Energy (DOE) to issue/award formula-based grants to states, U.S. territories, units of local government, and Indian tribes under the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) Program. DOE's authorization for this program is set forth in Title V, Subtitle E of the Energy Independence and Security Act (EISA) of 2007.

The purpose of the EECBG Program is to assist eligible entities in creating and implementing strategies to:

- reduce fossil fuel emissions in a manner that is environmentally sustainable and, to the maximum extent practicable, maximizes benefits for local and regional communities;
- reduce the total energy use of the eligible entities; and
- improve energy efficiency in the building sector, the transportation sector, and other appropriate sectors.

These stated purposes describe the overall intent of the EECBG Program. Entities may develop various initiatives and projects that address one or more of the purposes and each activity an entity undertakes is not required to meet all of the stated purposes. DOE encourages entities to develop many different new and innovative approaches within the framework of the legislation and the guidance to serve these purposes. However, each entity is required to use the funds in a cost-effective manner that is of maximum benefit to the population of that entity and in a manner that will yield continuous benefits over time in terms of energy and emission reductions.

The period of performance for these grants will be 36 months. In keeping with the agenda of the Recovery Act, and supporting the goal of immediate investment in the economy, entities are required to obligate/commit all funds within eighteen (18) months from the effective date of the award. In the event funds are not obligated/committed within eighteen (18) months, DOE reserves the right to deobligate the funds and cancel the award.

The grant announcement identifies eligible activities that include:

**11. Reduction and Capture of Methane and Greenhouse Gases:** Entities may use grant funds to purchase and implement technologies to reduce, capture, and, to the maximum extent practicable, use methane and other greenhouse gases generated by landfills or similar waste-related sources, such as wastewater treatment plants, operations producing food waste, dairy farms and other animal operations.

**12. Traffic Signals and Street Lighting:** Entities may use grant funds to replace traffic signals and street lighting with energy efficient lighting technologies, including light emitting diodes; and any other technology of equal or greater energy efficiency.

The City of Rapid City has been allocated \$649,900.00 through this formula grant program. Proposed uses of this allocation are design and construction of a landfill gas collection system and a pilot project for use of energy efficient street lighting.

This request is for authorization to apply for these grant funds and authorize the Mayor as the signatory for the grant application and all related grant paperwork.