

South Carolina Energy Office Solicitation

Competitive Impact and Demonstration Projects Energy Efficiency, Renewable Energy, and Alternative Fuels

The Department of Energy has awarded funding to the SC Energy Office (SCEO) to fund several high-impact educational or demonstration projects in the areas of energy efficiency, renewable energy, and alternative fuels. Our purpose is to encourage awareness of emerging technologies through projects that will be visible to a large number of individuals.

Eligible Applicants: Eligible applicants include state agencies, local governments, public colleges/universities/technical colleges, K-12 public schools, utilities and 501(c)(3) non-profit organizations.

Available Funding: The maximum award value is \$5,000. We will fund up to seven projects. Cost sharing is not required but leveraging of funds is encouraged in order to maximize the energy-related benefits of a project.

Timeline: Projects must be completed by April 10, 2015.

Application Process: Applications should be submitted on the attached form, with supporting materials and technical analyses as appropriate. Applications must be received by close of business on September 19, 2014. Please complete the application, scan, and email to the SC Energy Office, at gkokolis@energy.sc.gov.

SCEO Grant Requirements:

Project Permits:

The Recipient shall be responsible for obtaining any necessary licenses and/or permits and for complying with applicable federal, state, municipal laws, codes, and regulations in connection with the execution of the work hereunder.

Procurement:

A Recipient shall procure goods and services according to its established procurement policy, provided that its procurements conform to state law.

Reimbursement of Expenses:

The Recipient shall request reimbursement for costs incurred in accordance with approved budget. The Recipient must attach to the payment request documentation verifying any equipment, material, product, or service purchase for which the Recipient is requesting reimbursement.

Maintenance of Records and Audit Requirements:

Recipient must maintain records pertinent to all grants, agreements and accounts in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. These records shall be made available to SCEO, or any of its designated representatives, for examination and audit. Recipient must comply with audit requirements for federal funds, OMB Circular A-133, Audits of States, Local Governments, and Non-Profit Organizations.

Review and Award Process: Applications will be reviewed by a selection committee, based on the following criteria:

1. Expected energy savings and simple payback period
2. Visibility of the project
3. Ability to complete the project within the specified timeframe
4. Applicant's contribution to the project, including the applicant's proposed post-installation evaluation of impact. (See "Reporting" below)
5. Educational and/or demonstration value of the project

Once a project is selected for funding, the SCEO will send an award notice stating the amount of the award, the approved use of the funds, the effective date of the award, and the assigned SCEO contact.

Reporting: Following award and installation, successful applicants will submit a closing report along with their final request for payment that includes:

1. Square footage of system installed, if applicable (This is a DOE required metric)
2. Number of individuals impacted, as applicable
3. Estimated annual energy savings, with offset source specified (electricity, natural gas, etc.)
4. Estimated lifespan
5. Qualitative information about system performance, publicity, public involvement, etc. This may include photos and news stories and/or other narrative descriptions. We are interested in exploring how to assess the degree to which demonstration projects educate and/or change behavior. We would like grantees to work with SCEO to develop and implement an objective post-project assessment of target audience perceptions and attitudes (to the extent permissible).

If you have any questions about the solicitation or application process, please don't hesitate to contact George Kokolis at 803-737-0664, or gkokolis@energy.sc.gov.