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## **NEBRASKA SCHOOLS TO GET FREE ENERGY USE ASSESSMENTS Nebraska Energy Office Will Fund Analysis, Ranking and More**

LINCOLN – Public schools across the state have an opportunity to receive free energy use assessments to identify opportunities for energy and resource improvements. With a minimal effort by a school official, schools can find out where they rank with others on energy use, and become eligible for a more detailed evaluation at no-cost to the school.

“I am very pleased that nearly one-third of the schools in the state have already responded with their data,” said Energy Office Director Ginger Willson. “For most schools, it will take about an hour to gather and submit the information needed for the assessment. More importantly, those schools will then become eligible for a more thorough evaluation of where to find the best energy and resource savings in their building.”

### **August 31 Deadline**

“I hope many more schools will submit their information by the August 31 deadline,” Director Willson said. “Today there are so many competing uses for limited school funds. We’re offering an opportunity for schools to learn about where they can save hundreds and thousands of dollars. I don’t want any school to miss this chance.”

The Nebraska Public School Energy Efficiency Project is a three-part effort to help schools use analytical tools to help them find potential energy and resource savings. Under Phase One, schools submit energy use data for 18 months along with specifics about the building. Under Phase Two, those schools that show the most potential for energy savings will receive an investment-grade audit that includes an on-site analysis that identifies a number of energy efficiency improvements that could be undertaken. A third phase will address how the improvements can be made.

This activity is being paid for with U.S. Department of Energy State Energy Program/*American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009* funds received by the Nebraska Energy Office.

The Nebraska Energy Office was created in 1977 to promote the efficient, economic and environmentally responsible use of energy. It is an authoritative voice and comprehensive resource center for energy issues in the State of Nebraska. In addition, the energy office plays an important role in fostering new growth in our renewable energy industry and helping Nebraska lead the way in the new clean energy economy. For more information, please visit [www.neo.ne.gov](http://www.neo.ne.gov).