

# ALABAMA

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The U.S. Department of Energy - State Energy Program (SEP) provides funding to the Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs - Energy Weatherization and Technology (ADECA-EWT) Division. SEP funds are used to leverage additional funds to conduct numerous energy efficiency and renewable programs focused on reducing energy consumption, increasing energy efficiency, reducing the use of fossil fuels and protecting the environment.

**Biomass Energy Program** has completed 36 projects, saving industry in Alabama over \$10 million annually in energy costs. The program provides up to \$75,000 per project in interest subsidy payments on loans to fund the installation of biomass combustion and co-generation equipment. Through this program over 256,000 tons of wood waste is diverted from landfills to be used to produce energy.

**Rural Water Program** saves approximately \$1.7 million in energy costs each year through leak prevention and detection in rural water systems. This year 32 leak detection surveys were conducted and 80 water operators were trained in leak detection techniques resulting in over 9.9 million gallons of water saved.

**State Energy Efficient Buildings Program** is estimated to save \$5 million per year in utility costs for state buildings in the next few years. In May of 2006 the Governor signed an Executive Order requiring each state agency to reduce their energy consumption by 10 percent by fiscal year 2008. The program is training Energy Officers from each state agency to manage their agency's energy usage and is assisting several state agencies in implementing energy-saving projects to reduce energy usage in state buildings.

**Recycling Program** has produced energy savings of over \$5 million, recycled over 9 million gallons of oil, and diverted 1,000 tons of recyclable materials from landfills in Alabama since 2004. This program promotes the start-up and expansion of recycling programs in local municipalities. The program saves energy, benefits the environment and conserves natural resources.

**Agriculture Energy Program** promotes cutting edge renewable energy and energy efficiency technologies to the farming community by funding demonstration projects involving energy crops, biofuels, and renewable heat and power sources. Work by leading experts such as Dr. David Bransby at Auburn University is producing innovative technologies that can make a major impact on the energy efficiency and profitability of agricultural operations not only in Alabama but also throughout the U.S. A current project involving an integrated aquaculture-vegetable production system using renewable energy sources has lead to a patent application for the novel technology involved.

**Alternative Transportation Fuels Program** is providing support to several biodiesel production projects and providing technical assistance to those interested in producing or utilizing biofuels in Alabama. Through this program, the Alabama Department of Corrections is recycling used cooking oil from prison kitchens to produce biodiesel for use in Correctional Industries trucks and equipment. An Alternative Fuels Taskforce and an extensive network of alternative fuel stakeholders has been established and is working to accelerate the availability and use of alternative fuels, especially renewable fuels such as biodiesel and ethanol in Alabama.

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**Senior Centers Retrofit Program has retrofitted 113 senior centers with energy improvements, saving approximately \$169,000 per year in utility costs.** The program promotes energy conservation and efficiency while helping to reduce the energy costs for local governments in Alabama through grants to make energy improvements at senior centers. The program provides a better living environment for Alabama's senior citizens while saving on operational expenses.

**ENERGY STAR® has designated over 270 homes in Alabama as Energy Star homes since ADECA became an ENERGY STAR partner in December 2002.** The ADECA consumer education efforts promoting the ENERGY STAR label has considerably increased the purchase of ENERGY STAR products in the state, especially appliances and lighting products. ADECA works with city and county governments to encourage energy efficiency through ENERGY STAR's monitor power management program. Twenty-seven local governments in Alabama have implemented monitor power management on over 2,500 computer monitors, saving these local governments \$67,000 in energy costs each year.

**School Retrofit Program has provided \$52,000 in energy-efficiency improvements to eight schools, saving over \$20,000 in the first year of the program.** The program promotes energy conservation and efficiency while helping to reduce the energy costs at K-12 public schools in distressed counties of Alabama. In addition to conserving energy, the program helps provide a better learning environment for students.

<b>State Energy Program (SEP) - U.S. Department of Energy</b>				
<b>Fiscal Year 2001 to 2005 Federal Funds Awarded and State Cost Share - Alabama</b>				
	<b>Federal SEP Grant</b>	<b>Federal Share</b>	<b>Total State Match</b>	<b>State Share</b>
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$3,639,597</b>	<b>75%</b>	<b>\$899,410</b>	<b>25%</b>