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“SEP funding, leveraged with state and private resources, is helping to educate Kentuckians about the economic opportunities and environmental benefits offered by energy efficiency and renewable energy. SEP initiatives complement the renewable energy and energy efficiency recommendations outlined in Governor Fletcher’s Comprehensive Energy Strategy.” - GOEP Executive Director Talina Mathews



Program Initiatives for 2006

About the State Energy Program

The State Energy Program (SEP) is the only federally funded, state-based program (administered by the U.S. Department of Energy) that provides resources to the states for their deployment in addressing local renewable energy and energy efficiency needs and opportunities.

In FY 2006, the SEP program provided Kentucky with \$576k and another \$485k in SEP special projects that supported many initiatives that would not have been possible without SEP seed funding. Kentucky leveraged these funds against \$908k of state and private funding, **providing a return of 85 percent** for SEP federal funds invested in Kentucky.

Kentucky ENERGY STAR Program - A public-private partnership that helps protect the environment while saving consumers money through superior energy efficiency. Kentucky became only the fourth state in the nation to be declared an ENERGY STAR partner by the U.S. DOE and the U.S. EPA.

Energy Research and Development Seed Grant for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency - GOEP awarded four research and development grants for renewable energy and energy efficiency initiatives for a total of \$421,461. This funding is building intellectual capacity at Kentucky's public universities in the area of energy research and development.

High Performance School Workshop - Annually, GOEP sponsors a workshop designed for school superintendents, board members, facilities managers, architects and engineers who want to apply high performance concepts to their next school construction or renovation project.

Kentucky NEED Project - The non-profit Kentucky NEED (National Energy Education Development) program receives support from GOEP for the design and delivery of an energy

education program for teachers and students in grades K-12.

High Performance Home Workshops - GOEP sponsors one-day workshops focusing on high performance homes in cities across Kentucky. The workshops feature nationally recognized experts that provide objective information on the practical aspects of energy-efficient construction.

Utilities and Energy Efficiency: The "Fifth Fuel" Conference - Governor Ernie Fletcher joined Kentucky business, utility, governmental, academic, consumer and environmental leaders in Lexington to discuss The National Action Plan for Energy Efficiency. The conference was organized by the GOEP and Duke Energy.

U of L Energy Assessment Center - GOEP collaborates with the University of Louisville (U of L) to offer an energy assessment and technology diffusion service to Kentucky's businesses and industries. These assessments help Kentucky's industries stay profitable and stay local.

Kentucky's Energy Efficiency Potential Study by U of L – GOEP is partnering with University of Louisville (U of L) to study how additional investments in energy efficiency technologies can contribute to lower energy expenditures and new employment opportunities for residents of Kentucky, and to strengthen economic activity and quality of life.

Kentucky Energy Efficiency Program for Schools (KEEPS) - Through a grant to the University of Louisville (U of L), GOEP helped start the Kentucky Energy Efficiency Program for Schools (KEEPS) that offers participating schools and universities a complete package of tools, training and expertise to help save money through energy efficiency in buildings.

UK Cooperative Extension Service Outreach Program - GOEP supports University of Kentucky (UK) College of Agriculture to promote energy efficiency education throughout the Commonwealth. The support enables the Cooperative Extension Service to resource an ENERGY STAR circuit rider who travels across the state promoting ENERGY STAR at public events including home and garden shows and electric cooperative annual meetings, as well as a large exhibit at the Kentucky State Fair. UK Energy Efficiency in New Construction Grant – Kentucky was awarded a competitive grant from the United States Department of Energy (DOE) to help teach builders and the public about the benefits of energy efficient buildings. Partners include the University of Kentucky's College of Agriculture, Cooperative Extension Service, Kentucky Community and Technical College System (KCTCS) and GOEP.

Five ENERGY STAR Schools Announced in the Commonwealth - For the first time, Kentucky has five ENERGY STAR qualified schools in the state. ENERGY STAR qualified schools are some of the most energy efficient facilities in the Commonwealth. On average, these schools use 33 percent less energy than a traditionally built school resulting in significant dollar savings over the life of the school building.

Grant Awarded to the Kentucky Clean Fuels Coalition - The Kentucky Clean Fuels Coalition (KCFC) received a grant from GOEP to establish a network of Kentucky public school bus fleets interested in using biodiesel. The grant also provided partial funding for program administration of Kentucky's Clean Cities Program.

State Energy Savings Performance Contracts (ESPC) - GOEP has assisted the Finance and Administration Cabinet to develop nine ESPC projects for state facilities across the Commonwealth. Agencies assisted include the Transportation Cabinet, Cabinet for Families and Health Services, Kentucky Community and Technical College System and the Department of Corrections. These projects have the potential of saving 20 to 35 percent in utility costs that represents an annual cost savings of nearly \$2.7 million.

Bluegrass Energy Expo – GOEP helped sponsor the 3rd annual Bluegrass Energy and Green Living Expo. The Lexington event offered the public an opportunity to learn about proven energy solutions, energy-saving products and services, as well as renewable energy choices that create a more sustainable and prosperous future for Kentucky.

Community Support - GOEP is involved in a variety of other activities at the local community level to help support energy efficiency and renewable energy programs and projects.

“SEP allows us to connect with Kentuckians at the local level through public-private partnerships....at a time of rising energy costs learning about energy efficiency and renewable energy is extremely valuable to our citizens and businesses.” DREEE Director John Davies