

MISSISSIPPI

<http://www.mississippi.org/content.aspx?url=/page/3331&>



The Energy Division of the Mississippi Development Authority oversees energy management programs for the State of Mississippi, ensuring an environmentally acceptable, adequate, and dependable supply of energy. The Division helps economic development move forward by providing technical and financial assistance to improve energy efficiency as well as by promoting recycling. The Division also offers projects and services that accelerate the deployment of energy efficiency and renewable energy technologies, facilitate the acceptance of emerging and underutilized efficiency and renewable technologies and increase the responsiveness of public-funded technology efforts to private sector needs.

Energy Investment Loan Program (EIP)

EIP provides financial assistance to individuals, partnership or corporations, for either capital improvements, or deployment of innovative energy conservation processes. **Four loans were approved in 2006, which totaled \$896,050.00. Loans were distributed to 2 industries, one manufacturing plant, and two forestry companies.**

Industries of the Future (IOF) Activities

Mississippi is part of a multi-state consortium participating in the Department of Energy's IOF initiative. The Division seeks to develop m-partnerships with core energy-intensive industries to reduce the energy usage and materials required for manufacturing while employing the latest energy efficiency technologies. **With an informational outreach to 450 industrial clients, the Division conducted two workshops on workplace energy efficiency.**

State Energy Management Program (SEMP)

Mandate by state law, the Division coordinates the development of state energy management plans for all state-owned or state-leased building and facilities. The Division monitors agency energy consumption levels and provides technical assistance and training to implement energy management projects. **During 2006, SEMP performed 32 energy audits: 26 in schools and 6 in state agencies. SEMP worked with participants to develop over 50 energy management plans.**

SEMP Awards. The first annual SEMP Success and State Energy and Water Management Awards were implemented in 2006. Covering a wide variety of energy management and efficiency categories, the awards give statewide recognition to worthy companies, state agencies, and outstanding individual efforts. **The Division awarded six companies/individuals in 2006.**

Energy Management System (EMS)—EMS is a computerized, online program where state agencies can enter utility data. During 2006, modifications were made that enhanced the system to be able to produce BTU savings via cost avoidance. **Based on data submitted by participating state agencies, a 42% reduction in energy usage was verifiable.**

October Energy Awareness Month Project

The State of Mississippi marks Energy Awareness Month by promoting energy efficiency and renewable energy in the state's private and public sectors through field days, workshops, and conferences. **In addition to the governor's proclamation and advance public relations materials, the Division sponsored seven major events that reached 1,800 K-12 students, 125 energy coordinators, 86 vendors, 15 major sponsors, 2,400**

energy consumers, one major convention and expo held by the Mississippi Energy Coordinators Association, one efficiency training workshop under Industries of the Future, and 565 professional engineers/designers/builders/planners.

Emergency Management Program

Under the direction and leadership of the Mississippi Emergency Management Agency (MEMA), the Division coordinates and manages all aspects of Emergency Support Function-12 (ESF-12). In states of emergency called by the Governor, the Division responds. After the affects of the 2005 Gulf Coast hurricane season, Mississippi was embroiled in one of the worst disasters to affect the state. **In response, the Division partnered in three rebuilding workshops on the Mississippi Gulf Coast and sponsored two strategic planning sessions. In 2006, the Comprehensive Energy Management Plan (CEMP) was rewritten and four planning sessions were held to complete the manual. The Division participated in a pandemic influenza conference so as to be in readiness against this threat.**

Strategic Planning 2006. Growing directly out of the 2005 Hurricane Katrina disaster, the Division conducted a series of roundtable discussion focusing in on the utility industry and other affected state institutions and agencies. From the information gleaned, the Division was better able to move ahead with reconstruction planning and security planning for future catastrophic events. **The strategic planning session reached all major utilities and pipelines within the central and southern regions of the state along with twenty affected government entities.**

Energy Leadership Forum: January 19-20, 2006, Tunica, MS. As a direct result of Hurricane Katrina, the Energy Division hosted this forum, with the U.S. Department of Energy sponsoring. The Forum focused on the events and lessons learned from the catastrophic Gulf Coast hurricanes of 2005. **170 key players were brought together, which represented 12 federal agencies, 24 state and local government agencies, and 40 private organizations that were directly involved in the response to the Gulf Coast hurricanes. Key state included Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee and Texas.**

Rebuild Mississippi Program

This program establishes a collaborative relationship with public/private entities, institutions of higher learning, community colleges, hospitals and faith-based institutions that have interest in and/or expertise in energy conservation. Partners have equal access to grants, loans, technical and financial assistance, and aid in writing action plans. Coming together to share valuable information enables partners to stay up-to-date on the latest energy savings possibilities. **This year, 18 new partners joined the existing 75 partners. The Division continues to move toward forming a Rebuild Consortium that will enable broader funding opportunities for active partners.**

Energy Network Program

The Energy Network Program helps Mississippians become more energy smart by providing a statewide clearinghouse of educational materials and resources for all segments of the community. **Over the last year, the Division's NEED program trained 41 teachers that promoted program activities in 30 K-12 schools in Mississippi. Annual program activities reach on the average of 50,000 students, 200 teachers and school administrators, 45,000 energy education publications, and 50,000 visitors to booths and at special events. Staff conducted over 80 presentations at specials events.**

MISSISSIPPI

Transportation Program

As mandated by the USDOE and in collaboration with the Public Transit Division of the Mississippi Department of Transportation, the Division partners with public and private transit entities. The Division's carpool, vanpool and public transit programs are designed to reduce congestion and noise, conserve fuel, enhance air quality and provide communities with commuting options. **The Division continues to support efforts to establish Mississippi's first statewide transportation plan.**

Technical Assistance Program

Upon request, the Division provides technical assistance to all public and private sectors of Mississippi. Assistance is offered through building walk-throughs, energy usage audits, planning for energy savings, establishing energy management plans, consultation on performance contracting, and assistance in financial preparation and grant writing. **In 2006, the Division helped 22 public and private sector businesses, schools, and non-profits how to potentially save over \$300,000 in energy costs. Technical assistance in grant writing aided the Towns of Chula and Cruger to apply for funding. Working with the Center for Advanced Vehicular Studies (CAVS) at Mississippi State University, the Division identified potential energy reduction measure. The Division aided entities within the state network with each other (a casino and a town) to work together in the review of solar hot water installations. 13 Cap Loans were reviewed and approved along with three energy efficiency loan reviews were conducted.**

Energy Star® Program

The Division is an official Energy Star Partner. As a partner, the Division promotes consumer awareness of Energy Star products. The Division again this year joined into the annual Change a Light, Change the World campaign that challenges Americans to switch to lighting products that have earned the Energy Star label. **The program, through a variety of public relations events, reached over 450,000 customers through 560 publications (including building guides and building code information). Through a special project grant issued to Mississippi State University, the Division participated in two code workshops held in the Go-Zone of southern Mississippi.**

Rural Business Opportunity Grant

This is a special project under the State Energy Program where the National Association of State Energy Officials partners with the States of Mississippi and Oregon to produce avenues of assistance and information to rural business and agriculture/aquaculture outlets to provide assistance in saving energy dollars and to provide resources for entities existing in poor or poverty-stricken areas. **Awarded in 2006, the Division will produce a newspaper-style tabloid that will be distributed in various regions of Mississippi that need extra assistance to keep business moving forward.**