

<http://www.wyomingbusiness.org/index.aspx>



Wyoming Success Stories in the Making

Wyoming Energy Conservation Improvement Program

The State of Wyoming, State Energy Office, is implementing a performance-contracting-based energy conservation program. In this program, the SEO will facilitate performance contracting for state agencies, local governments, schools, colleges, hospitals and non-profits by prequalifying Energy Service Companies through an RFP process. The Wyoming Energy Conservation Improvement Program will assist the facility owners throughout the life of implemented performance contracts from initial assessment to final payment. An earlier energy audit program for schools, colleges and hospitals showed a considerable demand for a method of funding energy conservation measures but a reluctance of facility owners to do performance contracting without assistance. The WYECIP is acknowledges the assistance that the Kansas and Colorado State Energy Office's provided in the development of the program.

Small Business Energy Audit Program

The Small Business Energy Audit Program has assisted several businesses in the development and implementation of energy savings measures. These include a small furniture manufacturer that converted a wood waste to wood dryer fuel thus saving the cost of propane and the disposal costs of the wood waste. A ranch that utilized the program has implemented a wide variety of energy savings measures including additional building insulation, furnace replacements, chinking the log cabins and a variety of other measures.

Anemometer Loan Program

The Wyoming Anemometer Loan Program started small with two 50 M anemometers purchased through a Wind Power America Omnibus Grant. The fleet has expanded to ten 50M towers and two 30M towers. Two of the first landowners to participate in the program have signed lease agreements with wind developers and others are in negotiations. The Anemometer Loan Program has partnered with the USDA Value Added Producer Grant program to install five anemometer towers in this years round of installations. The plan here is to have the VAPG participants apply for USDA Section 9006 Energy Efficiency/Renewable Energy Grants or Loans to install commercial-sized wind turbines.

Residential Photovoltaic Grant Program

This program has proven to be very popular. Most of the grant applications are received with a few hours of beginning of the grant period. This matching grant program has assisted twenty eight applicants this year. About two third of the installations are for off-the-grid homes where the costs of distribution lines or operating costs of diesel generators are prohibitive.

Home Performance with Energy Star

The State Energy Office has partnered with a local weatherization organization to do a pilot Home Performance with Energy Star program in Laramie and Albany Counties Wyoming. Six contractors have completed the training and are in mentoring.