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Indiana's Office of Energy Development (OED) Opens Applications for the 2015 Community Conservation Challenge Grant Program

INDIANAPOLIS – The [Indiana Office of Energy Development \(OED\)](#) today announced that eligible Indiana entities involved in community energy conservation projects can begin applying for a share of \$700,000 through its 2015 [Community Conservation Challenge \(CCC\)](#) grant program.

Applications for the 2015 CCC grant program are being accepted online beginning today, Monday, January 5, 2015, through February 20, 2015. Program guidelines are available online at <http://www.in.gov/oed/2645.htm>.

“We’re excited to open applications for this competitive grant program,” said OED Director Tristan Vance. “The winning recipients could receive from \$25,000 to \$100,000 to support creative and unique energy conservation programs.”

CCC projects must be located in Indiana and must use commercially-available technologies. The project must be visible to the public and have at least one community partner, demonstrate measurable improvements in energy efficiency or the use of renewable energy, result in a reduction in energy demand or fuel consumption, or involve the implementation of an energy recycling process.

Eligible Indiana applicants include local units of government, school corporations, businesses, universities, and nonprofits. Applicants may apply for either an Energy Efficiency/Renewable Energy grant or an Alternative Fuel Vehicles grant.

The OED is looking for applicants that:

- Leverage the participation and support of multiple community organizations and agencies
- Prioritize energy efficiency, energy conservation, renewable energy, and/or alternate fuel technologies
- Have moved beyond the planning stages and are ready for project implementation
- Possess an innovative element, whether through unique partnerships, financing mechanisms and/or an educational component that will help explain the energy project to a broader audience

While cost sharing is not a requirement for applicants, Vance said special consideration is given to applications that leverage additional funding or for those which have in-kind funding.

(More)

Successful applicants must utilize one or more of the following eligible technologies:

- Alternative fuel vehicle fleets
- Combined heat and power
- Biomass
- Energy efficiency
- Geothermal
- Solar (PV and solar thermal)
- Traffic signal retrofits
- Waste management and recycling
- Wind energy

Those selected to receive a 2015 CCC will be notified by letter in March.

Winners from the 2012 CCC Program included Ozinga Indiana, RMC, which converted six diesel ready-mix trucks to compressed natural gas (CNG); Hoosier Interfaith Power and Light for a solar energy project; the Linton-Stockton School Corporation for a new HVAC system, new roof and boilers; and CNG truck conversions for Bestway.

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The [Indiana Office of Energy Development \(OED\)](#) was established to shepherd the state's energy plan. OED focuses on the development and implementation of comprehensive energy planning for the state that utilizes all of Indiana's energy resources and supports a strong, dynamic, and growing economy. OED coordinates state energy policy with executive branch agencies, houses energy-related programs, and works to support a strong, comprehensive, coordinated energy plan for Indiana. The office also administers grant programs funded by the U.S. Department of Energy. These grants promote the use of alternative power and fuels, energy efficiency and public education on energy issues in Indiana.