



Rural Energy for America Program (REAP/Sec 9007)

Applications due JULY 31, 2009

Overview: USDA's Rural Business-Cooperative Services is now accepting proposals for fiscal year 2009 to purchase renewable energy systems, make energy efficiency improvements and conduct feasibility studies for renewable energy systems. This program is designed to help agricultural producers and rural small businesses reduce energy costs and consumption and help meet the Nation's critical energy needs.

Eligibility: The program is designed to assist farmers, ranchers and rural small businesses that are able to demonstrate financial need. All agricultural producers, including farmers and ranchers, who gain 50% or more of their gross income from the agricultural operations are eligible. Small businesses that are located in a rural area can also apply.

Funding: Four types of applications will be accepted: loan guarantee only, grant only, loan guarantee plus grant (combo) and feasibility study only. The maximum amount of grant assistance to one individual or entity can not exceed \$750,000.

Applicants may request 25% of eligible project costs up to (whichever is less):

- \$500,000 for Renewable energy system grants
- \$250,000 for Energy efficiency improvement grants
- \$50,000 for Feasibility study grants

Applicants may request 75% of eligible project costs for:

- Guaranteed loans: up to \$25 million, Guarantee Fee 1%

Matching funds are required.

Full announcement: <http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2009/pdf/E9-12178.pdf>

Grant writing/Technical Assistance: Northwest SEED has prepared numerous successful applications for clean energy projects under the REAP program. Contact us today to learn more about this opportunity and our services: info@nwseed.org

****If you're located in Oregon, Energy Trust will provide eligible approved participants with cost-shared financial assistance for hiring a grant-writing consultant to help them apply for grants for certain new renewable energy projects. Northwest SEED is a pre-approved grant writing consultant for the Energy Trust of Oregon.****