

USDA Rural Development Announces Funding for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Loans and Grants

March 22, 2007 -- In the Federal Register it was announced that USDA Rural Development is accepting applications for fiscal year 2007 funding for the Renewable Energy Systems and Energy Efficiency Improvements Program. The program is for agriculture producers and rural small businesses to purchase renewable energy systems or make energy efficiency improvements. The funding is available in the form of grants, guaranteed loans and loan and grant combinations. There is a 75% match requirement for the grants and a 50% match requirement for loans or loan/grant combinations.

<u>RENEWABLE ENERGY GRANTS:</u>	<u>Minimum Grant</u> \$2,500	<u>Maximum Grant</u> \$500,000	<u>Application Deadline</u> May 18, 2007
<u>ENERGY EFFICIENCY GRANTS:</u>	<u>Minimum Grant</u> \$1,500	<u>Maximum Grant</u> \$250,000	<u>Application Deadline</u> May 18, 2007
<u>GUARANTEED LOANS:</u>	<u>Maximum Loan</u> \$10 million	<u>Guarantee Fee</u> 1%	<u>Application Deadline</u> July 2, 2007

<p style="text-align: center;">Applications are to be submitted to the Washington State Rural Development Office at:</p> <p>Attn: Business Programs Division USDA Rural Development 1835 Black Lake Blvd SW, Suite B Olympia, WA 98512</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Please direct your questions regarding the program to our Business Program Specialists in our Area Offices as follows:</p> <p>Sharon Exley- NW Washington 360-428-4322, Ext. 159 LeRoy Debes- NE Washington 509-924-7350, Ext. 115 Dan McNeley- SE Washington 509-454-5743, Ext. 4 Don Wagoner- SW Washington 360-704-7724</p>
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State Office Renewable Energy Coordinator, Mary Traxler 360-704-7762

Here is the link to the NOFA:

<http://a257.g.akamaitech.net/7/257/2422/01jan20071800/edocket.access.gpo.gov/2007/pdf/E7-5198.pdf>

Here is a link to our National Renewable Energy website:

<http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/rbs/farbill/index.html>