

City of Tuscaloosa

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HARRISON TAYLOR
District 2
President Pro Tem
CYNTHIA LEE ALMOND
District 3



WALTER MADDOX
Mayor

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KIP TYNER
District 5
BOB LUNDELL
District 6
WILLIAM TINKER
District 7

June 23, 2009

U. S. Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

Dear Sir or Madam:

**SUBJECT: Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant
Assurances**

In accordance with Title V, Subtitle E, Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grants (EECBG), Sections 541 (3) (B) of EISA 2007, Public Law 110-140, I hereby provide the following assurances regarding the application for EECBG funds on behalf of the City of Tuscaloosa, Alabama:

1. As the Chief Elected Official (Mayor) of the City of Tuscaloosa, I have been authorized by the governing body (City Council) of the City to apply for and implement the EECBG Program. I have designated the Department of Economic Development and Planning as the City Department that is authorized to receive funds and implement the EECBG Program.
2. I also certify that all laborers and mechanics on projects funded directly by or assisted in whole or in part by and through funding appropriated by the Act shall be paid wages at rates not less than those prevailing on projects of a character similar in the locality as determined by subchapter IV of Chapter 31 of title 40, United States Code (Davis-Bacon Act).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Walt".

Walter Maddox,
Mayor

BUDGET INFORMATION - Non- Construction Programs

SECTION A - BUDGET SUMMARY

Grant Program Function or Activity (a)	Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number (b)	Estimated Unobligated Funds		New or Revised Budget		Total (g)
		Federal (c)	Non-Federal (d)	Federal (e)	Non-Federal (f)	
1. ACTIVITY 12 LIGHTING	81.128	\$	\$	\$702,505	\$	\$702,505
2. ACTIVITY 6 BUILDING & FACILITIES	81.128	\$	\$	\$69,610	\$	\$69,610
3. ACTIVITY 2 TECHNICAL CONSULTANT SERVICES	81.128	\$	\$	\$118,885	\$	\$118,885
4. ACTIVITY 1 ENERGY EFFICIENCY & CONSERVATION STRATEGY	81.128	\$	\$	\$25,000	\$	\$25,000
5. TOTALS	81.128	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$916,000	\$ 0.00	\$916,000

SECTION B - BUDGET CATEGORIES

Object Class Categories	GRANT PROGRAM, FUNCTION OR ACTIVITY					Total (5)
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	
a. Personnel	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	0.00
b. Fringe Benefits	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	0.00
c. Travel	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	0.00
d. Equipment	\$	\$	\$650,000	\$	\$	\$650,000
e. Supplies	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	0.00
f. Contractual	\$	\$	\$135,000	\$	\$	\$135,000
g. Construction	\$	\$	\$64,400	\$	\$	\$64,400
h. Other (PROJECT ADMINISTRATION)	\$	\$	\$66,600	\$	\$	\$66,600
i. Total Direct Charges (sum of 6a -6h)	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$916,000	\$ 0.00	\$	\$916,000
j. Indirect Charges	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	0.00
k. TOTALS (sum of 6i and 6j)	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$916,000	\$ 0.00	\$	\$916,000

SECTION C - NON-FEDERAL RESOURCES

(a) Grant Program	(b) Applicant	(c) State	(d) Other Sources	(e) TOTALS
8.	\$	\$	\$	0.00
9.	\$	\$	\$	0.00
10.	\$	\$	\$	0.00
11.	\$	\$	\$	0.00
12. TOTALS (sum of lines 8 and 11)	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00

SECTION D - FORECASTED CASH NEEDS

	Total for 1st Year	1st Quarter	2nd Quarter	3rd Quarter	4th Quarter
	13. Federal	\$800,000	\$75,000	\$300,00	\$300,000
14. Non-Federal	\$ 0.00	\$	\$	\$	\$
15. TOTAL (sum of lines 13 and 14)	\$800,000	\$75,000	\$300,000	\$300,000	\$125,000

SECTION E - BUDGET ESTIMATES OF FEDERAL FUNDS NEEDED FOR BALANCE OF THE PROJECT

(a) Grant Program	FUTURE FUNDING PERIODS (Years)			
	(b) First	(c) Second	(d) Third	(e) Fourth
16. ENERGY EFFICIENCY & CONSERVATION BLOCK GRANT	\$800,000	\$56,000	\$60,000	\$
17.	\$	\$	\$	\$
18.	\$	\$	\$	\$
19.	\$	\$	\$	\$
20. TOTALS (sum of lines 16 -19)	\$800,000	\$56,000	\$60,000	\$ 0.00

SECTION F - OTHER BUDGET INFORMATION

21. Direct Charges:	
\$916,000	
22. Indirect Charges:	
23. Remarks	

Attachment D

Energy Efficiency & Conservation Strategy for Units of Local Governments & Indian Tribes

As detailed in Part 1 of this announcement, all applicants must submit an Energy Efficiency and Conservation Strategy (EECS). Units of local government and Indian tribes have the option of submitting the EECS no later than 120 days after the effective date of the award or at the time of application. Units of local government and Indian tribes who chose to submit the EECS at the time of application shall use the format contained in Attachment D. This form should be saved in a file named "UIC-Strategy.pdf" and click on "Add Optional Other Attachment" to attach.

Grantee: Tuscaloosa, Alabama Date: 06/25/2009 (mm/dd/yyyy)
DUNS #: 112849736 Program Contact Email: jbyram@devsollic.com

1. Describe your government's proposed Energy Efficiency and Conservation Strategy. Provide a concise summary of your measureable goals and objectives, which should be aligned with the defined purposes and eligible activities of the EECBG Program. These goals and objectives should be comprehensive and maximize benefits community-wide. Provide a schedule or timetable for major milestones. If your government has an existing energy, climate, or other related strategy please describe how these strategies relate to each other.

The City of Tuscaloosa proposes to undertake five projects with funds provided by the EECBG Program. These projects involve a large expenditure (\$650,000) of funds for EECBG activity 12) Lighting. Two projects are from EECBG activity 6) Buildings and Facilities, and one project is for activity 2) Technical Consultant Services, while the final project is under EECBG activity 1) Energy Efficiency and Conservation Strategy.

On May 10, 2007, Mayor Walter Maddox issued a Mayoral Proclamation in support of the U.S. Conference of Mayors policy resolutions calling for all government entities to take actions toward reducing global warming pollution. The Proclamation stating that "the City of Tuscaloosa does hereby concur with the spirit of the U.S. Conference of Mayors Climate Protection Agreement"; set forth specific actions that the City would strive to take in its own operations and communities. These actions are basis for the "Cool Cities Agreement" that was signed into effect for the City on that date.

The Cool Cities Agreement commits the City to reduce global warming pollution, decrease energy consumption, and reduce dependence on petroleum based fuels. It provided for twelve (12) broad goals or actions that would be followed by all departments and operating agencies of the City. This agreement formed the basis of a "Energy & Conservation Plan" that sets forth specific projects or activities under each of the twelve headings (goals).

Projects selected for funding are the result of convening a working group/committee of department heads and others in order to review these goals and to recommend ways in which the City could best utilize available resources to address these issues. By looking at overall impact and return on investment of the various options, projects were recommended to the Mayor and Council to be budgeted under the EECBG.

The measurable goals of these projects is to save 1,327,770 kwh and 840,000 cu. ft. of natural gas.

Implementation of all projects will begin within 90 days of funding approval and a completion goal of 30 months has been established to complete all work activity.

2. Describe your government's proposed implementation plan for the use of EECBG Program funds to assist you in achieving the goals and objectives outlined in the strategy describe in question #1. Your description should include a summary of the activities submitted on your activity worksheets, and how each activity supports one or more of your strategy's goals/objectives.

The City proposes to use the Office of Economic Development and Planning to oversee the implementation of the overall EECBG. This agency will have responsibility for coordinating with each project sponsor to see that timetables are being met and that the necessary data is being collected and reported. In order to assist and support the staff of this office, the City has procured the services of Development Solutions LLC, a firm experienced in working with federal programs.

Implementation of each of the projects will be the responsibility of the Department or Agency (Sponsor) having jurisdiction over that activity.

Install LED Street Lighting- This project calls for replacing existing High-pressure Sodium Vapor lights with energy efficient LED street lights. EECBG funds will be used only for purchasing new LED fixtures and for administrative costs, all installation expenses will be borne by the City. Implementation of this project will be the responsibility of the Tuscaloosa Department of Transportation (TDOT). This project supports the City's goal of retrofitting city facilities with energy efficient lighting, thereby reducing energy consumption.

Energy Saving Parking Deck Lighting- This project provides for replacing metal halide light fixtures in the City Hall Annex Parking Deck with new induction lighting technology that will reduce power consumption. EECBG funds will be utilized to contract with an electrical contractor to complete installation. Implementation oversight of this project will be handled by the City's Facilities Maintenance Department. This project supports the goal of retrofitting city facilities with energy efficient lighting, thereby reducing energy consumption.

Waste Oil Heating Project- This project will install new furnaces and attendant equipment in the City's Vehicle Maintenance Shop. This installation will allow for the collection and reuse of waste motor oil removed from city vehicles at the shop. Instead of disposing of the waste oil, the oil would be used to fuel the heating furnaces, thereby eliminating the need for natural gas and saving some 840,000 cu. ft. of gas annually. Implementation of this project will be the responsibility of the City's Facilities Maintenance Department. This project supports the City's goal of retrofitting city facilities to conserve energy and save money.

Electrical Energy Optimization Assessment- This project will undertake an assessment of the water and sewer system of the City. The water and sewer operations of the City, including both potable water and wastewater treatment plants, and all of the intake and pumping stations in the system are the largest single user of electrical power of any City function. It is anticipated that over 1 million kwh of electrical power can be saved by implementing the recommendations that this assessment will make. The Water and Sewer Department will let a technical support contract for this service and will oversee its implementation. This will support the City's goal of evaluating opportunities to increase pump efficiency in water and wastewater systems.

3. Describe how your government is taking into account the proposed implementation plans and activities for use of funds by adjacent units of local government that are grant recipients under the Program (response not mandatory for Indian Tribes).

The City of Tuscaloosa has a great deal of experience within its departments and agencies that make up its energy planning group/committee. This committee will endeavor to work with neighboring local governments to share expertise and experience in regard to energy and environmental issues. Only the County of Tuscaloosa is a recipient of formula funds under the EECBG and has announced plans to utilize those funds for energy updates on its Courthouse. Smaller municipalities in Tuscaloosa County are eligible to apply to the State program for funding. The City is not aware of any planning to do so at this time.

4. Describe how your government will coordinate and share information with the state in which you are located regarding activities carried out with grant funds to maximize energy efficiency and conservation benefits (response not mandatory for Indian Tribes).

The City, through various departments (Environmental Services, TDOT, Water and Sewer, etc.) has ongoing contact, inter-action, and reporting responsibilities to a number of State agencies, but principally the Alabama Department of Environmental Management (ADEM) and the Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs (ADECA). It is anticipated that these relationships will continue and that City staff will share their experiences regarding what has worked and what has not worked. City staff will likewise seek expertise and assistance from State staff and other communities within the State of Alabama.

The City of Tuscaloosa also encourages and supports department heads, supervisors, and technicians memberships in disciplinary interest groups and organizations and provides financial support to allow for their attendance at statewide meetings and conventions. This is an excellent opportunity to share information with their peers in other State and local government agencies, as well as learn from the best practices available.

5. Describe how this plan has been designed to ensure that it sustains benefits beyond the EECBG funding period.

This was an important criteria considered by the Energy Planning Committee in making its funding recommendation to the Mayor and City Council. Each of the projects included herein demonstrated the fact that there would be fairly quick returns on the investment of EECBG funds, the longest payback period being about five (5) years. Each of these projects will also produce annual energy savings every year after implementation is completed; producing annual savings for the City that can be budgeted to other priority public needs.

6. The President has made it clear that every taxpayer dollar spent on our economic recovery must be subject to unprecedented levels of transparency and accountability. Describe the auditing or monitoring procedures currently in place or that will be in place (by what date), to ensure funds are used for authorized purposes and every step is taken to prevent instances of fraud, waste, error, and abuse.

The EECBG will be managed by the Office of Economic Development and Planning, the office that oversees the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and HOME programs and has the most experience of any City department in working with federal programs. This Office will be assisted and supported by a private consulting firm with experience is working with federal programs. Each of the Departments responsible for the actual implementation of the projects will report to the Office of Economic Development and Planning their progress and results.

All checks for payment will be requisitioned (with appropriate documentation) and accounted for through the City's Finance Department. This Department oversees all financial transactions and multiple fund accounts for the City. An annual financial audit under the Federal Single-Audit Regulations is performed by an independent accounting firm.