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IOWA POWER FUND COMMUNITY GRANTS AWARDED FOR ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND RENEWABLE ENERGY

DES MOINES -- The Iowa Office of Energy Independence (OEI) is pleased to announce grants for 30 community based energy efficiency and renewable energy projects across the state.

About the Community Grants Program

The Community Grants program is funded through four percent of the annual appropriation of the Iowa Power Fund. Cities, counties and non-profit organizations are eligible to apply for up to \$50,000 to support community based programs. Some examples of qualified programs include: promoting energy efficiency and renewable energy locally, training for or creating jobs in the energy arena, establishing a community energy efficiency plan, creating public awareness about energy issues or helping community members understand how to identify and implement energy improvements.

Examples of the community grants awarded projects include:

- \$50,000 for an energy study involving traffic patterns and the establishment of work hubs
- \$50,000 for Renewable Fuels Education and Outreach
- \$101,771 for Whole Town Energy Efficiency evaluation and planning that will impact 17+ communities across the state
- \$45,000 for job training in energy efficiency
- \$75,000 for k-12 education and renewable technology demonstration

A list of awarded projects is available on the Iowa Office of Energy Independence's website at <http://www.energy.iowa.gov/>

The Office of Energy Independence will begin accepting applications for additional projects on February 5, 2010. All interested applicants may contact: Jessica Turba at (515) 725-0437 or Jessica.turba@iowa.gov

The Office of Energy Independence (OEI) sets the strategic direction for Iowa's clean energy future by identifying goals to achieve desired results. The office will align state government efforts for achieving energy independence through partnerships with business and industry, community leaders, government and public agencies, and other stakeholders.

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