

December 15, 2009

Board of Supervisors  
County of Ventura  
800 South Victoria Avenue  
Ventura, CA 93009

**Subject:**        **Authorization to Submit the Regional Energy Efficiency and Conservation  
Block Grant to the California Energy Commission**

**Recommendations:**

It is recommended that the Board:

1. Authorize the County Executive Office (CEO) to serve as the lead applicant in a joint application along with Cities of Fillmore, Ojai, Port Hueneme, and Santa Paula for the California State Energy Efficiency and Conservation (EECBG) grant application through the California Energy Commission (CEC);
2. Approve the attached resolution (Exhibit 1) authorizing the CEO to submit to the CEC an Application for the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) on its own Behalf and for the Cities of Fillmore, Ojai, Port Hueneme, and Santa Paula (Exhibit 2) in the amount of \$932,804;
3. Direct the CEO to return to your Board for execution of the contract with CEC and the establishment of necessary appropriations and revenue for said grant award.

**Background:**

On August 4 of this year, our office gave a presentation to your Board on the status of the County of Ventura's Climate Change Action Plan (CCAP) and corresponding team. As part of that presentation we discussed a variety of possible grant opportunities for CCAP, including our intentions to work with other local jurisdictions on an EECBG application. Over the intervening months, staffs from these jurisdictions as well as our own staff have been working with Ventura County Regional Energy Alliance (VCREA) on gathering information necessary to respond to the grant solicitation release in early October of this year. Given the late announcement, short deadlines, and the need for resolutions to be passed by our partner jurisdictions, staff has not had an opportunity to come to your Board before today.

**Discussion:**

**Grant Summary**

Within the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA), the Department of Energy (DOE) established the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant to assist counties and cities in implementing projects and program to reduce total energy use, reduce fossil fuel emissions, and improve efficiency in building and other appropriate sectors. The DOE has awarded the State of California \$49.6 million dollars in funding, in which the State is obligated to give 60% (\$29.8 million) to counties and cities that did not qualify for direct funding from DOE.

**The County of Ventura Application**

The County, along with the Cities of Fillmore, Ojai, Port Hueneme, and Santa Paula, qualify for \$932,807 under the State program. As with the federal EECBG allocation, the CEC decided to use a formula to distribute the \$29.8 million among the 265 cities and 44 counties that did not receive a direct allocation from the DOE. The following table represents the distribution of funds among the County of Ventura applicants:

<b>Applicants</b>	<b>Base Allocation (population * \$5.00)</b>	<b>Unemployment Adder (Base Allocation * Unemployment Rate of 10.2%)</b>	<b>Total</b>
County of Ventura	\$481,545.00	\$49,117.59	\$530,662.59
Fillmore	\$75,130.00	\$7,663.26	\$82,793.26
Ojai	\$38,955.00	\$3,973.41	\$42,928.41
Port Hueneme	\$107,670.00	\$10,982.34	\$118,652.34
Santa Paula	\$143,165.00	\$14,602.83	\$157,767.83
<b>County Totals</b>	<b>\$846,465.00</b>	<b>\$86,339.43</b>	<b>\$932,804.43</b>

The County's purpose for applying for EECBG funds is to reduce total energy use and by doing so improve energy efficiency in our government buildings. Following EECBG guidelines, projects will meet a minimum savings of 10 million British Thermal Units (Btus) savings per year for each \$1,000 EECBG funds spent. With the help of the staff at VCREA, the County and its joint applicants have identified 47 lighting retrofit projects, including street lighting and traffic signals, to be funded under this grant.

Grant applications are due January 12, 2010, and it is anticipated we will receive notification of grant award by June 2010. Staff will return to your Board for execution of the grant agreement and associated conditions for grant expenditure.

This item has been reviewed by the County Executive Office and County Counsel. If you have questions regarding this item, please contact Jeff Burgh, Program Management Analyst, at 477-1994.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Marty Robinson", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Marty Robinson  
County Executive Officer

Attachment- Exhibit 1- County of Ventura Resolution  
Exhibit 2- Signed Resolutions from Joint Applicants