

August 2009 Volume 10

Community Energy Challenge Monthly Update

Welcome to the *Community Energy Challenge Monthly Update*, a monthly publication by EPA New England promoting energy efficiency and clean, renewable energy.

Disclaimer: Some of the events, articles and websites listed in this email are not sponsored by EPA. EPA is listing them for your information only. EPA is not responsible for the content of information from non-EPA sources, and does not endorse any commercial product, service, enterprise, or policy that may be included.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 1) Welcome to the Newest Member of the Community Energy Challenge: Boxford, MA
- 2) Mass. Utilities File Efficiency Program Plans
- 3) Massachusetts Sates Higher Education, Agency, and Municipal 2009 Leading by Example Awards
- 4) Recovery Act Announcement: Department of Energy Secretary Chu Announces Nearly \$300 Million Rebate Program to Encourage Purchases of Energy Efficient Appliances
- 5) Recovery Act Announcement: Obama Administration Awards More than \$51 Million for New England State Energy Programs
- 6) Updates Scheduled for Portfolio Manager
- 7) EPA's WasteWise Launches New Data Tracking System in July 2009

ARTICLES

- 1) *Mass. Zero Energy Challenge winner announced*
- 2) *Chelmsford, MA pushes green agenda*
- 3) *Colebrook, New Hampshire, landfill to generate electricity*

EVENTS

- 1) Save the Date: NH Office of Energy and Planning Fall Conference
- 2) Renewable Energy & Energy Efficiency Workforce Education: A National Conference for Educators and Trainers
- 3) The Massachusetts Department of Energy Resources Presents: Energizing Your Classroom
- 4) Green Buildings Open House

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

- 1) U.S. Department of Energy - Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Solar Energy Technologies Program
- 2) New Hampshire Recovery Act Funding Update
- 3) Car Allowance Rebate System
- 4) Local Energy Assurance Planning (LEAP)

TIP OF THE MONTH

- 1) Free Use of Energy Meter for Efficiency Vermont Customers

TOOLS/TRAINING

- 1) LEED NC 2009 Training (Session 1 of 2)
- 2) LEED NC 2009 Practice Exam and Review (Session 2 of 2)
- 3) ICLEI Webinar Series Focuses on Innovative Financing for Local Governments
- 4) Responsible Purchasing Webinar for LED Exit Signs, Street Lights, and Traffic Signals
- 5) ENERGY STAR Webinars

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1) Welcome to the Newest Member of the Community Energy Challenge

EPA New England welcomes the community of Boxford, Massachusetts, the newest member of the Community Energy Challenge! This community has pledged to form a local energy committee, benchmark their municipal buildings, and reduce their energy use by 10%. These steps will help them to save money and reduce their greenhouse gas emissions. With this addition there are 147 CEC members. Welcome!

2) Mass. Utilities File Efficiency Program Plans

Massachusetts energy distributors recently submitted their Joint Statewide Three-Year Energy Efficiency Plans for both the electric and gas sectors to the state Energy Efficiency Advisory Council. The Council, charged with overseeing the energy efficiency provisions of the Green Communities Act, will evaluate the plans in the months ahead. Calling the effort "an unprecedented collaborative, consensus-building effort," electric and gas distributors intend to work together to meet the robust energy efficiency goals set last year by the General Assembly. The plans propose to double annual savings in both electric, and natural gas use by 2012, an ambitious target that would make Massachusetts a national leader in energy efficiency. Read more at

http://www.neep.org/newsletter/2Q2009/MA_plans.html

3) Massachusetts Higher Education, Agency, and Municipal 2009 Leading by Example Awards

Governor Patrick's Executive Order No. 484, which created the Leading by Example Program, challenged public agencies to advance clean energy and energy efficiency and reduce overall environmental impacts of government operations. The Leading by Example Awards recognize outstanding efforts among Commonwealth agencies, public colleges and universities, and municipalities that have implemented comprehensive policies, programs, and strategies resulting in significant and measureable environmental benefits.

Eligible Nominees include:

- State agencies and authorities
- State public colleges and universities; and
- Municipalities and/or their departments, schools/school districts, and public purchasing cooperatives.

No winners from 2008 are eligible.

Applicants should have made a significant effort in implementing initiatives in one or more of the following areas:

- Climate protection, planning, emissions reduction
- Energy efficiency and renewable energy
- Green building/sustainable design and construction
- Waste reduction and recycling
- Purchasing of recycled and environmentally preferable products (EPPs)
- Reduction or elimination of use of toxic chemicals and products
- Water conservation
- Natural resource protection

The Leading by Example Awards will be presented to recipients in Boston at a State House ceremony in October, and announced again at the 15th Annual EPP Vendor Fair and Conference, on October 27, 2009, at the DCU Center in Worcester. Media as well as state legislators and others are invited to the event.

To learn more about the Leading by Example Program and to apply for a 2009 LBE Award go to:

www.mass.gov/eea/leadingbyexample

4) Recovery Act Announcement: Department of Energy Secretary Chu Announces Nearly \$300 Million Rebate Program to Encourage Purchases of Energy Efficient Appliances

U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Secretary Steven Chu announced the availability of nearly \$300 million in funding from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act for state-run rebate programs for consumer purchases of new ENERGY STAR[®] qualified home appliances. The new program underscores the Obama Administration's commitment to make American homes more energy efficient, while helping to support the nation's economic recovery.

"Appliances consume a huge amount of our electricity, so there's enormous potential to both save energy and save families money every month," said Secretary Chu. "These rebates will help families make the transition to more efficient appliances, making purchases that will directly stimulate the economy and create jobs."

The new funding will be awarded to states and territories, through their energy offices, using a formula set forth in the Energy Policy Act of 2005. Each state or territory is required to submit a plan that specifies which ENERGY STAR appliance categories will be included in their rebate program, the rebate level for each product type, how the rebates will be processed, and their plan for recycling old appliances. States and territories must first file an initial application expressing their intent to participate by August 15, 2009, followed by a full application by October 15, 2009.

Approximately 10-25% of each award will be spent on administrative costs. States and territories will receive 10% of the funds after submitting the initial application with the balance awarded after their program plans are approved. DOE anticipates that a vast majority of funding will be awarded by November 30, 2009.

For more information on these and other Recovery Act related funding opportunities, visit the U.S. Department of Energy's Recovery and Reinvestment Web site at: <http://www.energy.gov/recovery/>

5) Recovery Act Announcement: Obama Administration Awards More than \$51 Million for Four New England State Energy Programs

- **MAINE – \$10,922,000 awarded**

Maine will use its Recovery Act funding to promote or expand energy efficiency in the commercial, industrial, and residential sectors throughout the state to save energy while creating and saving jobs. In order to reduce energy use at large industrial facilities in the state, Maine will offer financial assistance to support targeted technical and engineering studies at the facilities. Additionally, funding will go to expanding a state program to provide energy audits to businesses, allowing for additional businesses to identify opportunities for potential energy savings.

Maine will also improve energy efficiency in the state by jump-starting the implementation of more energy efficient building codes. The state will also increase funding for a program to help builders and business owners invest in up-front efficiencies in the design and construction of new commercial buildings. In the residential sector, Maine will expand its home weatherization program to include families above the low-income eligibility threshold for the Weatherization Assistance Program. Recovery Act funds will be used to provide home energy audits and weatherization assistance, and will fund education and training programs to build a new green workforce to provide weatherization and energy efficiency services across the state. After demonstrating successful implementation of its plan, the state will receive more than \$13 million in additional funding, for a total of more than \$27 million.

- **MASSACHUSETTS - \$21,964,400 awarded.**

Massachusetts will use its State Energy Program Recovery Act funds to advance energy efficiency across the state, especially in the building environment. The Governor's Energy Task Force identified a number of energy efficiency retrofit projects at public facilities with potential for energy and cost savings. The state intends to leverage SEP funds for these projects by using performance contracts wherever possible.

Additionally, Massachusetts will direct Recovery Act funds to help demonstrate solutions to a number of long-standing challenges in improving building energy performance which provides the opportunity to transform future energy efficiency efforts in the state. For instance, the state will provide funding for projects that will move toward the development of a net-zero energy building, along with examining ways to reduce the state's petroleum usage by expanding energy efficiency opportunities to people and businesses that use oil and propane for heating. After demonstrating successful implementation of its plan, the state will receive more than \$27 million in additional funding, for a total of nearly \$55 million.

- **RHODE ISLAND - \$9,584,000 awarded**

Rhode Island will use its Recovery Act State Energy Program funds to advance energy efficiency in the public, commercial, industrial, and residential sectors. Rhode Island will implement various commercial and industrial energy efficiency initiatives that will help employers lower energy bills and improve profitability.

For the residential sector, Rhode Island will increase professional support for comprehensive household energy audits and energy efficiency improvements. The state will also use Recovery Act funding to upgrade

the state's building energy codes to help realize energy savings in new residential and commercial buildings. After demonstrating successful implementation of its plan, the state will receive almost \$12 million in additional funding, for a total of nearly \$24 million.

- **VERMONT - \$8,799,600 awarded**

The State of Vermont will use its Recovery Act allocation to fund incentives to advance renewable energy and energy efficiency measures across the state in the public, private, and residential sectors. The state will increase the development and deployment of cost-effective and environmentally sustainable electric power resources by offering grants and loans to residents, businesses, non-profits, government, and farms to help them install such renewable energy systems as solar, wind and geothermal. The state also will establish a revolving loan and/or small grant program for public-serving non-profit or government institutions—including K-12 school districts, colleges, and universities—to implement energy efficiency measures or renewable energy projects.

In addition, Vermont will use SEP Recovery Act funds to install thermal solar renewable energy systems for heating and/or hot water to low-income residences. This effort will allow the state to continue to expand the weatherization program and realize greater energy savings. After demonstrating successful implementation of its plan, the state will receive almost \$11 million in additional funding, for a total of nearly \$22 million.

For more information go to the Department of Energy's Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy homepage at: <http://apps1.eere.energy.gov/news/>

6) Updates Scheduled for Portfolio Manager

Effective August 31, 2009, several important updates will be made in Portfolio Manager [including related tools: Target Finder and the Automated Benchmarking System (ABS)] which may impact your energy performance ratings. Updates will include:

- New Rating for Houses of Worship
- Updated Rating Methodology for Warehouses
- New Retail Eligibility Rule
- New Optional Hotel Characteristics
- New Fields for on-Site Solar and Wind Energy
- New tracking for Renewable Energy Certificates (RECs)
- New Fuel and Unit Choices

Additional guidance relating to these changes will be available at <https://www.energystar.gov/istar/pmpam/> on August 31, 2009. If you have any questions about these changes, please contact: buildings@energystar.gov.

7) EPA's WasteWise Launches New Data Tracking System in July 2009

WasteWise is moving to RETRAC on July 14th 2009, a FREE, online system that allows you to

- collect, analyze and report all your recycling data and waste information - ONLINE
- Instantly generate program performance and trend reports
- Instantly calculate GHG emissions

WasteWise partners submit baseline data within 2 months of joining WasteWise and are then asked to report waste reduction data each year. Data submission helps organizations to track their efforts and determine how much progress they have made towards their goals.

EPA uses this data to generate a Climate Profile for each WasteWise partner (after being in the program a year). The new data system is a free WasteWise member benefit. There will be webinars offered this summer on the new system so it is a great time to join WasteWise!

Joining is easy! To register as a WasteWise Partner, go to <http://www.epa.gov/epawaste/partnerships/wastewise/join.htm>

The online form only takes a few minutes. Once you join, measuring your waste reduction work is through your baseline and annual updates are the key to the program.

As of July 2009, there are 13 New England Local Government WasteWise partners/endorsers out of 213 nationally. To view WasteWise partners, go to <http://wastewise.tms.icfi.com/wisearch/search.asp>

If you want more information on becoming a WasteWise partner, you can contact the toll-free WasteWise Helpline at (800) EPA-WISE (372-9473), send an email to WasteWise@icfi.com or contact Janet Bowen of EPA Region 1 at 617-918-1795 or Bowen.Janet@epa.gov

ARTICLES

1) Mass. Zero Energy Challenge Winner Announced

Homebuilder Bick Corsa won the \$25,000 first-place honors in the Zero Energy Challenge, a competition by five Massachusetts electric utilities to encourage the construction of energy-efficient single-family homes.

Corsa's project is in Montague, Mass., and designed by Doug Stephens and Tina Clarke, incorporated photovoltaic power, solar thermal and passive solar into a 1,152 square-foot, three-bedroom home. Corsa worked with the Western Massachusetts Electric Co. on the project.

The award-winning house will be used by Greenfield Community College and Franklin Regional Technical High School in their respective educational energy programs. For more information go to: http://www.aer-online.com/e107_plugins/content/content.php?content.2590

2) Chelmsford, MA pushes green agenda

The town's push to be more energy conscious got a public airing as Gary Persichetti gave a presentation to selectmen on Chelmsford's participation in the Environmental Protection Agency's Community Energy Challenge. The program challenges towns to identify ways to increase energy efficiency and renewable energy, reduce air pollution, and ultimately save money.

The program is a small step toward becoming part of the Green Communities Program. Gov. Deval Patrick signed the program in 2008 in hopes of making the commonwealth a national leader in energy conservation. If criteria of the program are met, the town stands to receive part of a \$10 million annual grant. In the town's first year, 23 buildings were evaluated based on age, gross floor area, and 12 consecutive months of utility bills. From this information, the buildings received an evaluation number on a scale of 1 to 100. Any building scoring over 75 is indicated to perform better than 75 percent of similar buildings nationwide.

Of the buildings evaluated in the town's portfolio, many scored at or above the 75-point benchmark. The town office had the highest score, with 85. The Byam School was not far behind with a score of 84, and the high school scored 78. These buildings are already eligible for Energy Star recognition.

The program looks to cut the emissions of each building by 10 percent. Achieving that goal would mean eliminating 456 metric tons of carbon dioxide from being released into the air and eliminate 1,082 barrels of oil from being used. What's more, the town would receive \$166,736 a year in savings on utility bills.

Town Manager Paul E. Cohen, who initiated the project, tries to remain realistic. He does not predict the town will succeed in cutting 10 percent in each of its buildings, but hopes to achieve a 10 percent emissions decrease over all. He has appointed an Energy Conservation Commission to help facilitate the changes needed. The town has already taken steps such as replacing old water heaters, installing high-efficiency windows and using energy-saving light bulbs.

See story at: <http://www.wickedlocal.com/chelmsford/news/x1885903382/Town-pushes-green-agenda>

3) Colebrook's landfill to generate electricity

In 2000, the town of Colebrook, New Hampshire began the process of a proper closing of a landfill that ceased accepting waste closed in 1993. The select board spearheaded the methane to electricity project. One of the first steps was to install an active ventilation system which is now being used to harvest methane for the production of electricity. In 2007, the town issued a request for proposals on gas to energy and selected Pennsylvania Power & Light. PP & L bought the gas rights from Colebrook and will split their profits with the town.

The gas will last 10 years and generate approximately 6.3 million kilowatt-hours per year; enough power for approximately 600 homes. The generator itself is a 650 kilowatt power plant. The electricity produced will be managed by the NH Electric Co-op. PP&L will also set up a wind tower this summer with anemometers every 30 feet on a 180foot tower. Wind speed and direction will be measured to determine the best siting and elevation for wind

turbines at the landfill. Colebrook will then place either two or three towers to produce as much as 3 megawatts of power.

EVENTS

1) Save the Date: NH Office of Energy and Planning Fall Conference

The OEP's annual conference will be held on October 17th at the Mountain Club on Loon in Lincoln, NH. As the date approaches more details will be available on their website.

Each year, the Local Energy Committee (LEC) Working Group will acknowledge citizen volunteers, municipalities, and officials along with staff throughout New Hampshire for their contribution to the reduction of energy and greenhouse gas emissions. Award categories include Citizen Volunteer, LEC Project, and Municipal/School Employee. This year the recipients of the awards will be announced during the OEP conference. For more information go to: <http://www.nh.gov/oep/>

2) Renewable Energy & Energy Efficiency Workforce Education: A National Conference for Educators and Trainers

The organizers of the third national conference on New Ideas in Educating a Workforce in Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency are pleased to announce that the preliminary program is now available. This workforce education conference will take place on November 18-20, 2009 at the Marriott Hotel in Albany, New York. Conference sessions are planned for November 19 and 20. On Wednesday, November 18, six technical workshops will be offered.

With over 60 speakers, this event will offer the most current information on instructional strategies, curricula development, and best practices for training in the renewable energy and energy efficiency fields. Twenty sessions will cover the latest information on job forecasts and labor profiles, state and federal workforce initiatives, career pathways, training partnerships, model curriculum, standards, and new approaches to training in this rapidly emerging green economy.

Speakers from all corners of the United States will be representing community colleges, training organizations, skill centers, workforce development programs, technical high schools, state and federal government agencies, industry and credentialing bodies.

To view the preliminary program and to register go to:

http://www.meetmax.com/sched/mie1109/~public/conference_home.html?event_id=3120

3) The Massachusetts Department of Energy Resources Presents: Energizing Your Classroom

August 19, 2009

8:00 AM – 5:00 PM

Best Western Royal Plaza Hotel & Trade Center

181 Boston Post Road West

Marlborough, MA

The Massachusetts Department of Energy Resources, NGRID, NSTAR, NUS, the Cape Light Compact and NEED have partnered to provide teachers statewide with curriculum and resources at the upcoming Massachusetts Energy Workshop for Teachers to be held August 19, 2009 at B.W. Royal Plaza Hotel & Trade Center, 181 Boston Post Road West, in Marlborough.

This workshop presents a unique opportunity for classroom teachers (K-12) to learn about energy in a fun and exciting way! Register online by August 10, 2009 at <http://www.regonline.com/builder/site/Default.aspx?eventid=746676>

Confirmation and additional information will be sent via email after registration. Please make sure your email will allow email from need.org. Questions? Contact conference organizers at 1-800-875-5029 or via fax 1-800-847-1820, or by e-mail at info@need.org

4) Green Buildings Open House

Where: Statewide, New Hampshire

Date: Saturday, October 3rd, 2009

Time: All Day

The annual Green Buildings Open House is the largest sustainable energy event in the Northeastern USA. It is held on the first Saturday of October. Its goal is to showcase energy efficiency and renewable energy features in the many advanced buildings within the New England Sustainable Energy Association's 10-state territory. NHSEA facilitates the New Hampshire Sites. We connect consumers with professionals who can provide the services and products needed to retrofit current buildings and build new buildings capable of deep energy reductions and the on-site generation of clean power. Contact us at info@nhsea.org to add your home to this year's Green Buildings Open House.

For more information about this event please contact:

info@nhsea.org

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

1) U.S. Department of Energy - Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Solar Energy Technologies Program

Solar America Cities-Technical Outreach

Funding: \$10.5M Maximum per Award During 5-Year Performance Period

Open Date: 06/24/2009

Close Date: 10/15/2009

Funding Organization: Solar Energy Technologies Program

Funding Number: DE-FOA-0000086

Summary: This project will provide comprehensive outreach to local governments to help them build sustainable solar infrastructures and expand their solar markets. The project will help accelerate solar energy deployment by proactively addressing the needs of local governments for technical information and guidance, focusing on many areas such as policies and regulations, financial incentives, training, and community engagement.

The maximum funding for the first phase of each project, which is 3 years, is \$6 million. Maximum funding for the second phase, which is 2 years, is \$4.5 million.

For more information, see the full solicitation.

- Go to www.fedconnect.net
- Click on "Search Public Opportunities."
- Under "Search Criteria," select "Reference Number."
- Enter "DE-FOA-0000086," then click on "Search."

2) New Hampshire Recovery Act Funding Update

New Hampshire's State EECBG application was submitted to the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) on Thursday, June 25, 2009. The DOE approval will likely come within a few months. We anticipate grant applications will be made available to municipalities and counties in late fall of 2009. In the application, OEP proposes to use:

- \$6.6 million in grant awards
- \$2 million for a Statewide Inventory and Energy Planning Assistance Program
- \$500,000 for a grant manager to administer the grant

A more detailed summary of the proposed EECBG program is available on the OEP website at:

<http://www.nh.gov/oep/recovery/index.htm>

3) Car Allowance Rebate System

The Consumer Assistance to Recycle and Save Act (unofficially referred to as the "Cash for Clunkers" Act), that the US Dept of Transportation has created will help pay for new, more fuel efficient cars or trucks from a participating dealer when you trade in a less fuel efficient car or truck (for example, most Ford Crown Victorias are eligible). The official website for the program is www.cars.gov, where DOT plans to include a list of participating dealer and also a list of eligible vehicles.

Requirements:

- The trade-in vehicle must be less than 25 years old and drivable
- The trade-in vehicle must be registered and insured for the full year before the trade-in date
- The trade-in vehicle must have a combined city/highway fuel economy (EPA estimate) of 18 miles per gallon or less
- If the trade-in vehicle is a category 3 vehicle (large truck), then it must have been manufactured no later than the model year 2001.

Benefits:

- Trading in your old vehicle to any registered car dealership will award you a rebate of either \$3,500 or \$4,500, depending on the trade-in vehicle class and new vehicle purchased. Note: the CARS Act prohibits the taxation of the government rebate. The sales tax is calculated on the reduced cost of the new vehicle.
- The rebate can be used to purchase or lease a new, more fuel efficient car or truck that costs no more than \$45,000.

The rebates will be in effect until November 1, or until dealers provide \$1Billion in rebates, whichever comes first.

Stay tuned to website for the program, <http://www.cars.gov/> for further information and updates.

4) Local Energy Assurance Planning (LEAP)

As noted in the federal funding opportunity announcement:

“The objectives of this initiative are to:

- Strengthen and expand local government energy assurance planning and resiliency;
- Reduce the impacts from energy supply disruptions, and
- Create jobs.

The initiative will focus on building local energy assurance capability to allow Cities to better coordinate and communicate state-wide, regionally and with one another, on energy security and reliability and related emergency response issues.”

A total of \$10.5M is available; DOE anticipates making approximately 50 awards. Applications are due October 8, 2009 at 3pm. The Funding Opportunity Announcement can be viewed here:

<http://www.energy.gov/recovery/documents/DE-FOA-0000098.pdf>, but all application information and submissions on this opportunity through www.fedconnect.net. The minimum award is \$60,000, the maximum award is \$300,000.

TIP OF THE MONTH

1) Free Use of Energy Meter for Efficiency Vermont Customers

Are your electric bills too high? Find out why! Borrow a free, do-it-yourself meter to help discover the biggest energy users in your home.

Available from Efficiency Vermont, these meters simply plug into an appliance and a wall socket, and then show you how much energy is being used. Armed with that info, you'll be able to work with an Efficiency Vermont rep, by phone, to see what actions you can take to reduce your electricity costs.

Click here for a simple, online form. Your loaned meter will arrive by mail in a postage-paid, recyclable box that you can use to return the meter.

<http://www.encyvermont.com/pages/Residential/SavingEnergy/HighElectricBills/ElectricMeterLoan/>

Or, if Burlington Electric Department is your electric company, give them a call about a similar meter-loan service.

TOOLS /TRAINING

1) LEED NC 2009 Training (Session 1 of 2)

Date: September 10, 2009

Time: 8:00 am – 4:00 pm

Location: The McLane Center, Audubon Society
3 Silk Farm Road, Concord, NH 03301

Price: \$275.00

Details: Preparation for those wishing to sit for the LEED AP (Accredited Professional) Exam. This includes an overview of LEED, a technical review of LEED-NC credits, and the LEED certification process. At a subsequent session, students take and then review with the instructor a one hour LEED-NC Sample Exam. Lunch included. Price includes both sessions.

To register please go to:

<https://www.jordaninstitute.org/training-and-workshops/schedule/registration.aspx?id=5>

2) LEED NC 2009 Practice Exam and Review (Session 2 of 2)

Date: September 24, 2009

Time: 3:00 pm - 5:30 pm

Location: The McLane Center, Audubon Society
3 Silk Farm Road, Concord, NH 03301

Details: Practice Exam and Review for the Sept. 10 Intro to LEED NC and Exam Prep session. Cost is included in fee for Sept. 10 event.

To register please go to:

<https://www.jordaninstitute.org/training-and-workshops/schedule/registration.aspx?id=10>

3) ICLEI Webinar Series Focuses on Innovative Financing for Local Governments

ICLEI—Local Governments for Sustainability is holding a series of five webinars in July and August, 2009, on promoting residential energy efficiency and renewable energy efforts using municipal financing models. The webinars highlight local programs that use innovative financing methods to promote increased energy efficiency and use of renewable energy among residents, businesses, and other organizations.

Webinars will highlight financing programs in four local communities across the United States, including Babylon, New York; Cambridge, Massachusetts; Berkeley, California; and Boulder, Colorado. The fifth webinar will focus on the topic of setting up a city-scale retrofit program. Recordings of most of the webinars will be archived on ICLEI's website for later viewing if you can't join the live meetings.

For dates and times, and to register for the webinars, please visit: <http://www.icleiusa.org/news-events/event-folder/iclei-webinar-on-energy-financing-models-berkeleyfirst>

4) Responsible Purchasing Webinar for LED Exit Signs, Street Lights, and Traffic Signals

Date: Wednesday, August 19, 2009

Time: 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM EDT

Light Emitting Diodes (LEDs) are extremely efficient lighting products that can create energy cost savings for any organization. LEDs have many applications...learn about three of them at the **Responsible Purchasing Webinar for LED Exit Signs, Street Lights, and Traffic Signals. Attend the August 19 RPN LED webinar** to learn how to:

- Write and evaluate bid specifications for the most energy efficient LED products available
- Calculate cost and energy savings of LED products
- Recognize prevalent and reliable LED standards
- Understand the benefits and costs of different LED projects
- Message your successes to stakeholders
-

The webinar will include the following speakers*:

Vincent Kitira, RPN Manager, to provide an overview of the Responsible Purchasing Guide to LED Exit Signs, Street Lights, and Traffic Signals.

Alicia Culver, Green Purchasing Institute, to provide insight on LED Exit Signs and Street Lights.

Amy Olay, Senior Civil Engineer, San Jose Department of Transportation, to provide an overview of San Jose's LED Street Light program.

This webinar is free, but registration is required. To register please go to:

<https://www2.gotomeeting.com/register/594327554>

5) ENERGY STAR Webinars

- **Benchmarking in Portfolio Manager for Local and State Governments**

Session date: Tuesday, August 11, 2009

Starting time: 1:00 pm, Eastern Daylight Time (GMT -04:00, New York)

Duration: 1 hour

Presenters: Leslie Cook

- **Purchasing and Procuring Efficient Equipment**

Session date: Wednesday, August 19, 2009

Starting time: 2:00 pm, Eastern Daylight Time (GMT -04:00, New York)

Duration: 1 hour

Presenters: Steve Jurovics

Description: Purchasing products with the ENERGY STAR label can substantially reduce your organization's energy use and costs. This training includes information about EPA support to help your organization purchase products with superior energy performance; guidelines that define energy performance for numerous products; sample procurement language for stipulating energy performance attributes to vendors; lists of ENERGY STAR labeled products; and energy savings software that calculates the life cycle costs of ENERGY STAR products and their less efficient counterparts.

- **Benchmarking Wastewater Systems in Portfolio Manager**

Session date: Thursday, August 20, 2009

Starting time: 1:00 pm, Eastern Daylight Time (GMT -04:00, New York)

Duration: 1 hour

Presenters: Peter Oh

Description: Portfolio Manager allows users to track the progress of energy efficiency efforts and compare the energy use of wastewater systems to other peer facilities across the country. During this session, attendees will learn how to measure and track energy use and carbon dioxide emission reductions in wastewater treatment plants to establish baseline energy use, prioritize investments, set goals, and track improvements over time.

For more information and to register for these webinars go to:

<https://energystar.webex.com/mw03051/mywebex/default.do?siteurl=energystar&service=7%20>

All 147 communities in New England Community Energy Challenge program will automatically receive this email unless they indicate that they would like to be removed from the list. All other New England communities or individuals who would like to receive it are welcome to subscribe as well (for more information on joining the Challenge please visit: <http://www.epa.gov/region1/eco/energy/energy-challenge.html>.) For additions or deletions from this email list or if you have ideas on information that you would like to see in future monthly updates please contact Linda Darveau of EPA New England at darveau.linda@epa.gov or at (617) 918-1718.