Rural Utilities Service

Funding Renewable Energy & Energy Efficiency Improvements at Wastewater Facilities

Water and Environmental Programs
Benjamin Shuman, PE
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USDA, Rural Development

• Three agencies providing financial assistance for rural America
  – Rural Utilities Service (RUS)
  – Rural Business-Cooperative Service (RBS)
  – Rural Housing Service (RHS)

• Water and Waste Disposal Program (RUS)
  – Loans, grants, & loan guarantees for water infrastructure improvements for eligible rural communities, tribes, and not-for-profits.
  – Population under 10,000
Policies

• Application requirements include need for a Preliminary Engineering Report (PER)
  – Analysis of alternatives and life cycle costs
  – Interagency format for PER includes sustainability considerations (including energy efficiency)

• Energy efficiency and renewable energy improvements may be eligible if cost effective
WWTP Improvements in Pennsylvania

• Regional WWTP Upgrade
  – Electric production from anaerobic sludge digestion
  – Heat captured to render sludge Class A
  – Approx. 95% construction complete
Solar Power for a WWTP in Michigan
WWTP Improvements (Montana)

- Solar powered pumps to lift effluent from storage to irrigation field
WWTP Improvements (California)

- 1200 solar panels decreased energy cost by 75%
Questions/Comments?

Benjamin Shuman, PE
Senior Engineer

ben.shuman@wdc.usda.gov
202-720-1784

www.rd.usda.gov