



The sun rises over the downtown Denver, Colorado skyline. Photo by Dennis Schroeder, NREL 27456

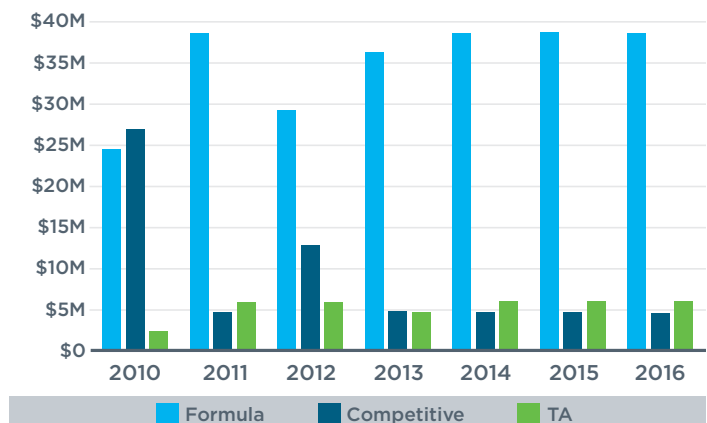
Overview

Over the last 30 years, the U.S. Department of Energy's State Energy Program (SEP) has provided funding and technical assistance to states, territories and the District of Columbia to advance their clean energy economy and maximize the benefits of energy efficiency through technology deployment. States demonstrate leadership through their unique authorities to convene, develop, implement and reform energy policy and market infrastructure. State Energy Offices use SEP funds to develop state plans that advance energy solutions through regional networks, strategic energy planning, executive orders, legislation and local ordinances, management of local retrofits and land-use plans. SEP helps states address their implementation and financing barriers to enable accelerated deployment of replicable, cost-effective, clean energy technologies. The SEP also helps states prepare for natural disasters and improve the security of the energy infrastructure. Specifically, SEP helps states meet federal requirements to prepare an energy emergency plan and develop individual state energy plans.

Funding

Since 2010, SEP has invested \$209 million in annual formula funds and \$61 million in competitive funds for states. States use their formula grants to develop state strategies and goals to address their energy priorities, all while providing a 20% match. State Energy Offices are a vital resource for delivering energy savings, addressing national energy goals, and coordinating energy-related emergency preparedness across the nation.

SEP FUNDING HISTORY (2010-2016)



Examples of formula work include:

- Alabama implemented a buildings energy efficiency program which saved \$7.4 million in energy costs within the first two years.
- Illinois installed geothermal heating and cooling systems in schools resulting in more than 118,000 British thermal units (Btus) of natural gas saved annually, enough to heat approximately 125 homes for a year.
- Oregon developed a Residential Energy Tax Credit Program for homeowners and renters which leverages \$153 of private funds for every \$1 of SEP funds expended on retrofits. The program issued 25,000 tax credits worth \$1.2 billion.

SEP helps states address their implementation and financing barriers to enable accelerated deployment of replicable, cost-effective, clean energy technologies.

In addition to annual formula funding, SEP sets aside a portion of its yearly congressional appropriation for competitively awarded funding opportunities which allow states to compete for funding designed to meet the states’ and Department’s nationally-focused energy initiatives. In a typical year, SEP chooses Areas of Interest on which to focus, and states may apply for funding under any area. In 2015, SEP Competitive Awards in the amount of \$5 million were awarded to applicants seeking to expand and evolve successful past programs under two Areas of Interest:

- State Energy Planning (four states selected)
- Opportunities for Innovative Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Programs: (eight states selected)

Examples of Competitive Awards (2012-2016):

Focus & Areas of Interest	Investment	Awardees
Stimulating Energy Efficiency Action		
FY12 - Stimulating EE Action in States	\$473,500	1 State: WA
FY13 - Stimulating EE Action in States	\$1,000,000	2 States: AR, MS
Commercial/Industrial Buildings		
FY12 - Advancing EE in Public Buildings	\$7,936,162	13 States: AZ, HI, IL, IA, MD, MA, MS, MO, NJ, NM, NY, RI, WI
FY13 - Advancing Industrial EE	\$750,816	8 States: AL, IA, KY, MI, MS, OR, TX, WI
FY13 - Clean Energy Economic Opportunity Roadmaps	\$1,059,917	3 States: MI, NC, WA
Finance		
FY12 - Deploying Fee-based Self-funded Public Facility Programs	\$5,049,249	8 States: AK, CA, KY, MN, NC, NV, VA, WA
FY13 - Driving Demand for Public Facility Retrofits	\$3,449,521	6 States: IA, MA, MD, SC, TN, WI
Advancing State Planning, Policies and Programs		
FY14, FY15, FY16 - State Energy Planning	\$4,502,651	11 States: HI, ID, IL, ME, MI, MN, NM, NY, SC, TN, VA
FY14, FY15, FY16 - Opportunities for Innovative EERE Practices	\$10,208,826	20 States: AK, AL, AR, CO, CT, IL, KY, ME, MN, MO, NE, NH, NY, NM, RI, TN, TX, VA, VT, WA
FY16 - Technical Assistance to Advance SEP Formula Grant Clean Energy Activities	\$225,000	3 States: FL, MT, WV
Total	\$34,655,642	



Program Outcomes and Benefits:

Between 2010 and 2016, SEP formula and competitive funding implemented by the states and territories resulted in many outcomes and benefits, including the following:

- Increased the energy efficiency of more than 19,000 buildings (115.8 million square feet) through the installation of energy upgrades;
- Supported the installation of more than 40,000 renewable energy systems (total capacity of 8.6 million kilowatt hours);
- Educated 2.6 million people in performing energy audits and upgrades through more than 30,000 workshops, training sessions and/or webinars;
- Assisted industry partners to become more economically competitive by identifying barriers to industrial energy efficiency;
- Coordinated with local utilities to establish and implement complementary efficiency programs.
- Demonstration and piloting of innovative energy projects with the private sector, K-12 schools and universities;
- Executed Energy Savings Performance Contracts to undertake retrofit projects in public facilities, such as state and municipal buildings, correctional facilities, water districts, and educational institutions.
- Developed implementation models that serve as “how-to” guides for other states who wish to replicate the programs that are achieving energy efficiency savings. ■