

Spotlight on the Governor's Office of Energy Performance Contracting Team

Governor Sandoval each week recognizes exceptional achievements, successful programs and initiatives, and a standard of excellence in the work that is done every day in Nevada state government. This week, the Governor is proud to shine the spotlight on the effective programs and dedicated employees of the Governor's Office of Energy and their efforts to promote energy conservation through their performance contracting program.

The mission of the Governor's Office of Energy is to ensure and oversee the prudent management and development of Nevada's energy resources in response to local economic needs, and to position Nevada to lead the nation in renewable energy production, energy conservation, and the exportation of energy.

One of the ways the office promotes energy conservation is through a process called performance contracting, which lowers energy costs and improves the work environment through better heating, cooling, and lighting. Through performance contracting, the Douglas County School District received \$5 million to fund critical infrastructure improvements at 11 schools. Additionally, the City of Henderson received \$23 million to replace old plumbing, upgrade traffic signals, and retrofit buildings without increasing the city's budget. The Governor's Office of Energy and the Public Works Division are also currently evaluating the potential for a performance contract at the Grant Sawyer Building in Las Vegas and other state government buildings throughout Nevada.

To accelerate performance contracting, the Governor's Office of Energy recently implemented the Performance Contract Audit Assistance Program (PCAAP), which pays for the audit required to finance a performance contract. PCAAP has already enabled the cities of Reno and Sparks to receive \$23 million to upgrade the Truckee Meadows Water Reclamation Facility.

The Governor's Office of Energy is able to achieve its critical mission due to the leadership and vision of dedicated employees such as Program Manager Sue Stephens, Energy Efficiency Specialist David Gibson, and Grants Administrator Bette Hartnett. Together, this team has worked with state and local government agencies to initiate performance contracts and effectively administer Department of Energy grants. They also support the mission of the office by providing assistance through workshops, webinars, and site visits, explaining how performance contracting can work for consumers and agencies.

Governor Sandoval commends the dedicated team at the Governor's Office of Energy on its outstanding efforts to promote energy conservation and support renewable energy development. Their ongoing commitment to their agency's mission is not only essential to making the Silver State a national leader in energy conservation, but is also critical to supporting Nevada's continued economic comeback.