



# The ARRA EAP

## Energy Assurance Planning Bulletin

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Alice Lippert, EAP Program Manager

[Alice.Lippert@hq.doe.gov](mailto:Alice.Lippert@hq.doe.gov)

OE Website

<http://www.oe.energy.gov/>

**Welcome to the fourth issue** of the quarterly *Energy Assurance Planning Bulletin*, a service of the U.S. Department of Energy, Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability (DOE/OE). The *ARRA EAP Bulletin* provides information on energy assurance planning resources, upcoming events, training opportunities, and important grant deliverable dates.

## Need to Know

**The DOE/OE 10-Step Local Energy Assurance Planning Framework is now available.** The Framework is designed as a supplement to the PTI *Local Government Energy Assurance Guidelines*, for use by local-level grantees as they begin the energy assurance planning process. The Framework, along with slides from an introductory webinar conducted by DOE/OE on Aug. 12, are available at <http://www.energyassurance.us/>.

**Looking ahead: DOE/OE regional exercises will start next spring.** Please mark your 2011 calendars for DOE/OE's State-level regional energy assurance planning exercises. DOE/OE will host four regional exercises across the country, designed to help State grantees test their draft energy assurance plans and meet inter-State exercise deliverable requirements. Each regional exercise will be held in conjunction with a workshop intended to educate participants on key topics related to energy assurance planning. Local grantees are also invited to attend; participation satisfies exercise deliverable requirements, if any are included in their Statement of Project Objectives. Regional exercises are planned for **March, June, September, and November, 2011.**

## News from the States

**Wind power bill signed into law by New Jersey Governor Chris Christie.** The Offshore Wind Economic Development Act (OWEDA) will promote offshore wind generation in New Jersey by providing financial assistance to qualified projects and by stipulating that a certain percentage of the State's renewable energy portfolio come from wind generation.

For more information, visit: <http://www.state.nj.us/governor/news/news/552010/approved/20100819a.html>

## Training Opportunities

### **State and Local Grantees:**

**DOE/OE and NASEO will be conducting informational sessions.** To provide education on a range of key energy assurance planning issues, webinars will be offered to State and local grantees. Topics will include the upcoming FEMA-coordinated New Madrid National Level Exercise and cyber security/smart grid issues related to energy assurance, among others. The sessions will be held in the months ahead. Details will be emailed to State and local planners.

### **Local Grantees:**

**Ongoing webinars and regional conference calls to be held.** PTI and DOE/OE will coordinate an ongoing series of instructional webinars and regional conference calls for local grantees. Details will be emailed to local planners.

## Action Items

### State and Local Grantees:

**Quarterly Reports (Progress Report and SF-425) for grant activity July - September 2010 are due no later than October 30.** Quarterly Reports are submitted via the EERE-PMC website:

<https://www.eere-pmc.energy.gov/SubmitReports.aspx>.

**The ARRA 1512 reporting cycle for the current quarter will begin October 1, 2010.** ARRA 1512 reports are submitted via [www.federalreporting.gov](http://www.federalreporting.gov). For local grantees, further information and sample reporting templates are available at: [www.energyassurance.us](http://www.energyassurance.us). Additional questions may be addressed by Attachment 3 (Federal Assistance Reporting Checklist) of the Assistance Agreement, or through contact with the DOE/NETL Project Officer.

**Alert: If your CCR registration has expired or will be shortly please renew as soon as possible. An expired CCR number may prevent you from successfully filing the 1512 report on time.** Detailed instructions for CCR registration can be found on <https://www.bpn.gov/ccr/default.aspx>.

### REMINDERS:

**State and local ARRA recipients are advised to implement timely expenditures of their grant dollars** in accordance with the ARRA grant guidance and the Cost Plans contained in the approved Project Management Plans.

**Project Management Plans and Workforce Development Plans** must be kept current. Substantial changes to a project may warrant an updated plan. Contact your DOE/NETL Project Officer with any questions.

**States are encouraged to submit 2-3 paragraphs highlighting key accomplishments from their past year of energy assurance planning work.** These can include information on job creation, new stakeholder partnerships, or best practices. See examples at: <http://naseo.org/energyassurance/updates/index.html>.

**EEAC and EAP contact information updates** are still needed from some States. Information should include name, title, agency name, mailing address, phone, and e-mail address. All contact information should be sent to: [ISERAdmin@oe.netl.doe.gov](mailto:ISERAdmin@oe.netl.doe.gov).

## State and Local Energy Assurance Success Stories

**Iowa has begun outreach to a range of propane stakeholders** to better prepare for the annual fall propane-demand rush and to establish the coordination necessary to prevent future supply emergencies. Strategies to be discussed include improvements to delivery scheduling processes, potential applications for waivers of Federal driver hour regulations, and improved supply coordination to meet the agriculture sector's crop-drying needs.

**Asheville, North Carolina is working to establish a Regional Strategic Fuels Project (RSFP)** to help prevent future petroleum price gouging in small regional communities. The RSFP will provide additional resources to smaller jurisdictions that have had difficulty procuring sufficient fuel at reasonable prices. Strategies include storing reserves for use during a regional shortage or effectively coordinating fuel distribution to key local end-users during emergency response.

## Other Useful Information and Links

**DOE/OE has completed a hardening and resiliency study on energy industry efforts made since the 2005 and 2008 hurricane seasons.** The report, entitled "Hardening and Resiliency: U.S. Energy Industry Response to Recent Hurricane Seasons," is available at: <http://www.oe.netl.doe.gov/docs/HR-Report-final-081710.pdf>.

## Upcoming Events

**Winter Fuels Outlook – Oct. 13, 2010, Washington, DC** The Outlook, hosted by DOE/OE, the Energy Information Administration, and NASEO, will feature sessions on global oil supply uncertainty, demand for heating fuels, and other issues. It will also include presentations by a range of public and private sector energy experts. For more information, visit: <http://www.naseo.org/events/winterfuels/index.html>.

**NARUC Annual Meeting – Nov. 14-17, 2010, Atlanta, GA** The 122<sup>nd</sup> NARUC Annual Meeting will focus on the challenge for utility companies and regulators to serve the consumer interest in the face of dramatic changes in the energy and telecommunications industries. For more information, visit: <http://annual.narucmeetings.org/>.

## Guidance from NASEO

The National Association of State Energy Officials (NASEO) has a list of 10 helpful guidelines for States and localities rewriting their energy assurance plans. The *ARRA EAP* is highlighting two of these guidelines each quarter over the course of five issues. What follows is the fourth installment of this series. For more information contact Jeff Pillon at [jpillon@naseo.org](mailto:jpillon@naseo.org).

### ***Understand How You Can Effectively Respond***

Various response measures are appropriate for different levels of response. Ideally, a State will implement a system of passive and voluntary measures to mitigate minor problems, with an increasing scale of active and mandatory measures for the more severe stages of a supply disruption. It is also useful to recognize that there are measures that can work to increase or supplement supply and other measures that are intended to reduce demand. In both cases the efforts are intended to move toward supply/demand equilibrium.

#### *Key things to focus on:*

- Understand what is and is not possible in your State
- Be prepared to explain how measures work and why they might be recommended
- Be prepared to recommend measures to the Governor or other decision-makers including:
  - Voluntary measures
  - Mandatory measures
  - Supply enhancement measures
  - Demand restraint measures

### ***Maintain an Alternative Budget for Emergencies***

Plan to defend some politically acceptable maintenance budget for routine monitoring and plan updates, and have a short-term, augmented budget ready to present when an emergency occurs.

#### *Key things to focus on:*

- Review the State's Energy Emergency Preparedness Plan on a regular basis
- Assess changes in local and national energy markets as they impact your State
- Coordinate your planning with your State's emergency agency