



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## Recovery Act funds projects to save energy and reduce costs

**SALEM**— The Oregon Department of Energy announced that two energy projects will receive more than \$600,000 in federal funds. These projects are funded by American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (stimulus funds).

The funds are being awarded through the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) that can be used for projects that reduce fossil fuel emissions in a manner that is environmentally sustainable and maximizes benefits for local and regional communities; reduce total energy use; increase the use of renewable energy sources; and improve energy efficiency. The U.S. Department of Energy administers the funds, approves the projects and reviews the state’s progress.

With the announcement of these awards, ODOE obligated 100 percent of its \$9.5 million EECBG award. ODOE announced its first round of EECBG awards in January 2010 and a second round in July. ([www.oregon.gov/ENERGY/Recovery/Funding.shtml](http://www.oregon.gov/ENERGY/Recovery/Funding.shtml))

ODOE selected the City of Cottage Grove for an EECBG award of \$497,006 for a wastewater facility project. Cottage Grove received an earlier stimulus award for a wastewater energy efficiency feasibility study. The study showed impressive energy savings if the project were to be implemented, but also indicated that there was little potential for funding the project in the near future. ODOE selected the Cottage Grove project for implementation in this final round of EECBG awards. Part of the funding will also be used to conduct a solar feasibility study at the facility.

ODOE announced a second EECBG award will go toward a project to install video conferencing capabilities at the Association of Oregon Counties office in Salem. This will avoid travel time and greatly reduce travel costs for county staff throughout the state who will be able to participate in AOC meetings from their county offices. The project is expected to reduce emissions of greenhouse gases due to the elimination of travel and also produce savings for budget-minded counties.

Entity	Facility	County	Award	Project Type
City of Cottage Grove	City wastewater facility	Lane	\$ 497,006	Wastewater
Assn. of OR Counties	AOC office	Marion	\$ 120,000	Video conf.
TOTAL			\$ 617,006	

**ABOUT THE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY:** The Oregon Department of Energy (ODOE) provides tax credits, loans, technical assistance and energy information for homes, businesses, manufacturing, farms, ranches, schools and governments. For more information, visit ODOE's website at [www.oregon.gov/energy](http://www.oregon.gov/energy)

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