

## Funding and Internship/Training Opportunities

March 9, 2012

The Tribal Energy Program is pleased to forward information on possible funding and internship and trainee opportunities. Information courtesy of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Office of Native American Programs (ONAP), the U.S. Department of the Interior (DOI) Office of Indian Energy and Economic Development's (IEED's) Division of Energy and Mineral Development (DEMD), the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and Western Area Power Authority (WAPA).

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### Funding Opportunities

#### **HUD OneCPD Technical Assistance and Capacity Building Grants – Applications Due March 15, 2012**

Indian tribes are eligible applicants for \$62 million available through the Office of Community Planning and Development's (CPD) OneCPD and Core Curricula Programs. OneCPD will fund results-oriented technical assistance and capacity building. For more information, visit the [Grants.gov](http://Grants.gov) website.

#### **DOI Grant Opportunity to Assess, Evaluate, and Promote Development of Tribal Energy and Mineral Resources – Applications Due March 16, 2012**

The Energy and Mineral Development Program (EMDP) provides funding to Indian tribes with the mission goal of assessing, evaluating, and promoting energy and mineral resources on Indian trust lands for the economic benefit of Indian mineral owners. To achieve this goal, DOI's Office of Indian Energy and Economic Development (IEED), through its Division of Energy and Mineral Development (DEMD) office, is soliciting proposals from tribes. The department will use a competitive evaluation process to select several proposed projects to receive an award.

**Grant announcement:** See the attached Federal Register announcement.

**Deadline:** Submit grant proposals on or before **March 16, 2012**. Proposals received after this date will not be considered.

**Application:** Submitting your proposal electronically is highly recommended this year. You may e-mail your proposal to [Amanda John](mailto:Amanda.John@DOI.gov) or [Amber Beckham](mailto:Amber.Beckham@DOI.gov).

#### **U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Huntsville Issues RFP for Large Scale Renewable Energy Production for Federal Installations – Comments Due March 21, 2012**

This draft RFP is being provided to industry for receipt of industry comments only. This is NOT a request for proposal (RFP) at this time. In accordance with FAR 52.215-3, this solicitation is issued as a request for information only. No awards will be made from this draft RFP. The final RFP, when issued, may vary significantly from this draft. Any comments regarding this draft solicitation are to be submitted by firms via the [ProjNet](#) website. To submit comments firms will need to self-register in the system if they are not already registered.

The objective of this acquisition is to procure reliable, locally generated renewable and alternative energy utilizing power purchase agreements or other contractual equivalents. It is the intent of the government only to purchase the energy that is produced and not to acquire any generation assets. The contractor shall develop, finance, design, build, operate, own, and maintain the energy plant. The government will contract to purchase the energy for up to 30 years in accordance with the terms and conditions stipulated in site/project-specific agreements resulting from Task Orders awarded under multiple indefinite delivery/indefinite quantity (ID/IQ) contracts (see Section H). Project locations may be on or near any federal property located within the United States, including Alaska, Hawaii, territories, provinces, and other property under the control of the U.S. government for the duration of contract performance. The intent is to award contracts to all qualified and responsible offerors, both large and small businesses.

The estimated maximum contract amount for the multiple award ID/IQ contracts (sum of all Task Orders awarded) is \$7 billion over a period of 10 years (if the options are exercised).

For more, go to the [Fed BizOps](#) website and search solicitation number W912DY11R0036.

### **HUD ROSS Service Coordinator NOFA – Applications Due March 27, 2012**

HUD has announced the Fiscal Year 2012 notices of funding availability (NOFAs) for the Resident Opportunities and Self Sufficiency Service Coordinator (ROSS-SC) program. The NOFAs contain application information and can be accessed at [Grants.gov](#).

Public housing authorities, nonprofit agencies, public housing resident associations and tribes/tribally designated housing entities are eligible for \$35 million in ROSS-SC funding.

The program allows recipient entities to hire or retain program or service coordinators to link low-income residents with local organizations that provide education, job training, child care, counseling, transportation, job placement programs, and/or computer and financial literacy services to residents, thereby helping them achieve economic self-sufficiency. For the elderly or disabled, the ROSS-SC program provides funding to hire an SC who arranges supportive services that allow residents to maintain their independent lifestyle.

**USDA Announces 2012 Funding and Stakeholder Meetings for REAP – Application Deadlines: March 30, 2012 and June 29, 2012 (see below)**

The Rural Energy for America Program (REAP) is designed to help agricultural producers and rural small businesses reduce energy costs and consumption and help meet the nation's critical energy needs. For 2012, USDA was appropriated funding to support at least \$12.5 million in grants and approximately \$48.5 million in guaranteed loans through REAP. For details, view the REAP 1012 Notice of Funding Availability in its entirety on the [USDA](#) website. You can also read a [USDA press release](#) regarding this funding opportunity. USDA Rural Development is currently accepting the following applications:

- **Renewable energy system and energy efficiency improvement grant applications and combination grant and guaranteed loan applications accepted until March 30, 2012**—Tribes **are not** eligible to apply directly for this assistance, as there is a legislative prohibition of any applicant being directly controlled by a governmental body. However, Tribal Section 17 Corporations **are eligible**, and other similarly structured tribal corporations **may** be eligible to apply after the corporate structure has been reviewed by Rural Development and legal counsel to ensure that there is no direct governmental control of the applicant. The maximum amount for the grant portion is \$500,000 for renewable energy systems and \$250,000 for energy efficiency improvements, or 25% of the project cost (whichever is lower). The minimum amount of the grant portion is \$1,500 for either renewable energy systems or energy efficiency improvements. The maximum loan guarantee amount is \$25 million or 75% of the project cost, whichever is lower. For grant and loan combination applications, the loan and grant dollar amount limits are the same, but Rural Development's combined support for the project cannot exceed 75% of the project cost.
- **Renewable energy system and energy efficiency improvement guaranteed loan only applications accepted on a continuous basis up to June 29, 2012**—Tribes **are not** eligible to apply directly for this assistance, as there is a legislative prohibition of any applicant being directly controlled by a governmental body. However, Tribal Section 17 Corporations **are eligible**, and other similarly structured tribal corporations **may** be eligible to apply after the corporate structure has been reviewed by Rural Development and legal counsel to ensure that there is no direct governmental control of the applicant. The maximum loan guarantee amount is \$25 million or 75% of the project cost, whichever is lower.
- **Renewable energy system feasibility study applications accepted through March 30, 2012**—Tribes **are not** eligible to apply directly for this assistance, as there is a legislative prohibition of any applicant being directly controlled by a governmental body. However, Tribal Section 17 Corporations **are eligible**, and other similarly structured tribal corporations **may** be eligible to apply after the corporate structure has been reviewed by Rural Development and legal counsel to ensure that there is no direct governmental control of the applicant. The maximum amount of grant funds that will be made available for an eligible feasibility study project under this subpart to any one recipient will not exceed \$50,000 or 25% of the total eligible project cost of the study, whichever is less.

**USDA Rural Development will hold stakeholder meetings focusing on REAP during the first quarter of calendar year 2012**—These meetings will be hosted by Rural Development state directors. Stakeholders must contact the appropriate Rural Development state office to participate. In recognition of current budget conditions and as we approach the time for developing the next Farm Bill, Rural Development is calling together stakeholders in order to provide updates on REAP; discuss ways we can leverage agency resources, including working with private and public partners and emphasizing guaranteed loans; and reiterate our commitment to helping meet President Obama’s energy independence goals.

Tribal leaders, tribal professionals, and other tribal stakeholders are encouraged to participate. Please note that, due to space limitations, participation in each stakeholder meeting will be limited and will be on a first-come, first-served basis. Therefore, we encourage you to contact, as soon as possible, your Rural Development State Energy Coordinator to obtain information on participating in the meeting in your state. Please be advised that if you participate in one of these meetings, you are responsible for your own transportation and any other costs (e.g., food) incurred in participating in the meeting.

For more information, contact your USDA Rural Development State Energy Coordinator (refer to the [list of state coordinators](#)), or browse the [REAP](#) Web page. If you prefer a single point of contact, please direct all tribal REAP-related inquiries to USDA Rural Development’s Native American Coordinator, [Tedd Buelow](#), at [720-544-2911](#).

### **EPA Issues FY12 Environmental Workforce Development and Job Training Grant Guidelines – Applications Due April 12, 2012**

EPA announces FY12 Environmental Workforce Development and Job Training Grant Guidelines. See the EPA website for the [guidelines](#).

Under this opportunity, EPA is soliciting proposals from eligible entities, including nonprofit organizations, to deliver environmental workforce development and job training programs that recruit, train, and place local unemployed and under-employed residents with the skills needed to secure full-time employment in the environmental field, with a focus on solid and hazardous waste remediation, environmental health and safety, and wastewater-related training.

The total funding available under this competitive opportunity is approximately \$2.8 million, subject to availability of funds, quality of proposals received, and other applicable considerations. EPA anticipates awarding approximately 14 environmental workforce development and job training cooperative agreements from this competitive opportunity.

### **U.S. Department of Justice Tribal Civil and Criminal Legal Assistance Grants – Applications Due April 17, 2012**

Grants are available from the U.S. Department of Justice for Indian tribes and tribal organizations to provide legal services for indigent defendants and respondents in tribal justice

systems and other legal-related services. For more information, see the [competitive grant announcement](#).

### **U.S. Department of Justice FY 2012 Coordinated Tribal Assistance Solicitation – Applications Due April 18, 2012**

More than \$101.4 million in grant funding is available from the Department of Justice. The funding can be used to conduct comprehensive planning, enhance law enforcement, bolster justice systems, support and enhance tribal efforts to prevent and control delinquency and strengthen the juvenile justice system, prevent youth substance abuse, serve victims of crime, and support efforts to combat crimes. See the fact sheet on the FY 2012 Coordinated Tribal Assistance Solicitation on the [Justice.gov](#) website for additional details. For more information, contact the COPS Office Response Center at [1-800-421-6770](tel:1-800-421-6770) or by email at [tribalgrants@usdoj.gov](mailto:tribalgrants@usdoj.gov).

### **NRCS Conservation Innovation Grants – Applications Due April 20, 2012**

The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) requests proposals from eligible government agencies, nongovernmental organizations, or individuals seeking competitive consideration of grant awards for projects between one and three years in duration. The Conservation Innovation Grants (CIG) program does not fund research projects; rather, it funds proposals that stimulate the development and adoption of conservation approaches or technologies that have been studied sufficiently to indicate a likelihood of success. CIG funds projects targeting innovative on-the-ground conservation, including pilot projects and field demonstrations. To be eligible, projects must involve landowners who meet the EQIP eligibility requirements. For more information, see the [Grants.gov](#) website.

### **HUD New Choice Neighborhoods Funding Opportunity – Applications Due May 1, 2012**

HUD has announced the availability of \$5 million in planning funds to help communities develop grassroots plans that link affordable housing with quality education, public transportation, good jobs and safe streets. For information about these opportunities, visit the [HUD](#) website.

## **Internships and Training Opportunity**

### **Columbia River Basin (9-Month Internship)**

The Northwest Advanced Renewables Alliance (NARA) is offering Native American graduate students in the fields of environmental science, forestry, biology, and engineering an opportunity to work collaboratively with the Columbia River Basin tribes on project teams for nine months beginning in fall 2012. Research institutions involved in this alliance include University of Washington, Washington State University, University of Idaho, University of Oregon, University of Montana, and Montana State University. Because most schools have

grad application deadlines during the winter months for fall admission, graduate students who are interested in this opportunity should apply immediately. Please visit the [NARA](#) website for more information. Questions may be directed to [Laurel James](#), NARA Tribal Projects Team.

**WAPA Seeking Student Trainee – Applications Due March 16, 2012**

STUDENT TRAINEE ((METER & RELAY CRAFTSMAN), WB-2610-00

Step 1: \$26.45 per hour Step 2: \$27.60 per hour

Targeted for APPRENTICE Meter & Relay Craftsman

Desert Southwest Regional Office

Assistant Regional Manager for Maintenance Protection and Communication Maintenance

Duty location: Phoenix, AZ

This is a student trainee position in a pre-apprentice electrical trade, and appointment will be made in accordance with provisions of the Student Career Experience Program. This position provides training and work experience to the student and gives support to the maintenance function within the Desert Southwest Region. During the term of this appointment, the student gains the basic theoretical and practical knowledge and skill and ability of the trade that are necessary to enter the apprenticeship program and perform successfully as an apprentice. For more information, see the attachment.