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**COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA**

Department of Environmental Protection

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## **DEP SEEKS COMMENT ON NEW PROGRAMS TO INCREASE ENERGY EFFICIENCY, REDUCE ENERGY COSTS**

**HARRISBURG** – The Department of Environmental Protection seeks public comments on guidelines for a new grant offering under the new PA Green Energy Works! program, which is aimed at reducing energy costs for consumers, businesses and local governments. The program is funded through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act.

“We are seeking input and feedback from the public, businesses and local governments to make sure that this program meets the needs of our consumers while ensuring that the federal Recovery Act money is being used wisely and as efficiently as possible,” said Department of Environmental Protection Secretary John Hanger. “The funding provided by this program will boost economic recovery efforts in every corner of the commonwealth by creating new jobs and investing dollars into our communities.”

As a result of the Recovery Act, Pennsylvania is receiving \$99.6 million, which will be invested through the PA Green Energy Works! and other energy grant programs.

Pennsylvania will provide grants to businesses, non-profit corporations, colleges or universities, municipal or county governments, and economic development organizations for shovel-ready wind, solar, biogas and combined heat and power projects. The projects are expected to spur economic development by encouraging private investment, creating green jobs and building energy projects that will provide significant amounts of energy for decades to come.

Draft guidelines for the program are available for public review and comment at [www.recovery.pa.gov](http://www.recovery.pa.gov) under the heading, “Where is your money going?” and then by clicking on “Energy Independence.”

Comments will be accepted until Aug. 24, and should be sent to [epapagreenenergy@state.pa.us](mailto:epapagreenenergy@state.pa.us) or to DEP’s Office of Energy and Technology Development, P.O. Box 2063, Harrisburg, PA 17105-8772

Following the review of public comments and recommendations, the department anticipates accepting applications for the new program beginning in early September.

To learn more about how the federal economic Recovery Act will benefit communities across Pennsylvania, visit [www.recovery.pa.gov](http://www.recovery.pa.gov).

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