

**June 18, 2009**

**Obama Administration Delivers More than \$453 Million for Weatherization Programs in 15 States**

U.S. Department of Energy Secretary Steven Chu today announced that the Department of Energy is providing more than \$453 million in Recovery Act funding to expand weatherization assistance programs in 15 additional states. These funds, along with additional funds to be disbursed after the states meet certain Recovery Act milestones, will help these states achieve their goal of weatherizing more than 165,000 homes, lowering energy costs for low-income families that need it, reducing greenhouse gas emissions, and creating green jobs across the country. Secretary Chu made today's announcement while helping to weatherize a local resident's home in Columbus, Ohio with Governor Ted Strickland.

The following states will receive 40% of their total weatherization funding authorized under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act today: California, Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Maryland, Montana, North Carolina, North Dakota, Nebraska, Nevada, Ohio, South Carolina, South Dakota, Utah, and West Virginia. Under the Recovery Act, states may spend up to 20% of funds to hire and train workers.

"These awards demonstrate the Obama Administration's strong commitment to moving quickly as part of the country's economic recovery—creating jobs and doing important work for the American people—while ensuring that taxpayer dollars are spent responsibly," said Secretary Chu. "Today's investments will save money for hard working families, reduce pollution, strengthen local economies and help move America toward a clean energy future."

- **Ohio (\$106,712,564 awarded today)** will use its Recovery Act funding to weatherize more than 32,000 homes over the next three years. The Ohio Office of Community Services (OCS), part of the Ohio Department of Development's Community Development Division, will work with 35 subgrantees to implement its program across all of Ohio's 88 counties. OCS will also work to preserve and enhance the state's long-term capacity to perform weatherization activities. In order to support the program's economic recovery goals, as contractors are hired, disadvantaged businesses will be offered opportunities to bid on and receive weatherization work. The Ohio Home Weatherization Assistance Program (HWAP) will ensure that green building technologies, such as Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) and renewable energy technologies, are incorporated into weatherization activities where possible. HWAP will also strive to leverage weatherization activities with other housing rehabilitation and neighborhood revitalization efforts, such as the Neighborhood Stabilization Program.

After demonstrating successful implementation of its plan, the state will receive an additional \$133 million, for a total of more than \$266 million.

- **Florida (\$70,393,790 awarded today)** will weatherize more than 19,000 homes over the next three years with its Recovery Act funds. The increase in funding through the Recovery Act provides the state with a unique opportunity to weatherize multi-family homes, which is not typically possible at traditional weatherization funding levels. Priority for multi-family weatherization projects will be given to assisting the elderly, people with disabilities, and families with children under 12. In deciding to weatherize specific multi-family dwellings, the state will also give strong consideration to the greatest potential for energy savings. Weatherization activities will include renewable energy systems such as solar water heating where appropriate.
- **District of Columbia (\$3,235,609 awarded today)** will use its Recovery Act funds to weatherize more than 750 homes, with priority given to single-family homes—especially those occupied by the elderly, people with disabilities, and families with children. The District Department of the Environment's Energy Division intends to leverage a portion of its funds with the District's Sustainable Energy Trust Fund, thereby increasing the homes that are eligible for weatherization. It will contract for weatherization services with several local non-profit agencies, including Barney Neighborhood House, Greater Washington Urban League, United Planning Organization, and others still to be determined.

After demonstrating successful implementation of its plan, the District will receive an additional \$4 million, for a total of more than \$8 million.

- **Utah (\$15,158,881 awarded today)** will use its Recovery Act funding to weatherize more than 4,400 homes, reducing energy use and costs for thousands of families across the state while improving living conditions in the home. Utah has climate extremes with temperatures commonly ranging from less than -30 degrees Fahrenheit to over 100 degrees Fahrenheit. Many of these extreme weather conditions occur in areas less than 100 miles apart. Priority will be given to the elderly, disabled, and households with preschool age children who may spend a majority of their time inside the home. The Utah Division of Housing and Community Development is responsible for administering the Recovery Act weatherization funds. The majority of the Recovery Act funds will be subgranted for implementation to the following local weatherization agencies: the Bear River Association of Governments, the Davis County Aging Services, the Five County Association of Governments, the Housing Authority of Utah County, the Salt Lake Community Action Program, the Six County

Association of Governments, the Southeastern Utah Association of Local Governments, and the Uintah Basin Association of Governments.

After demonstrating successful implementation of its plan, the state will receive an additional \$18 million, for a total of more than \$37 million.