

Iowa Economic Development Authority houses the State Energy Office (SEO) which sets the energy policy direction for the state (formerly known as the Office of Energy Independence). As the designated SEO, the energy team receives the State Energy Program Formula funding from the Department of Energy to carry out designated energy activities for the state. These activities include promoting energy efficiency, biofuels, and renewable energy. In addition, the energy team administers several programs as listed below.

### **SunShot Rooftop Solar Challenge II**

While solar PV panel costs' have been declining, the soft costs (permitting, zoning, financing) have not. The Iowa Economic Development Authority, in partnership with Iowa Association of Municipal Utilities and Iowa Environmental Council will address how to lower soft costs of solar PV in Iowa through seven pilot communities. Other deliverables include an online solar toolbox, and education and outreach events.

### **Iowa Power Fund**

This program was established by the state legislature in 2007. Approximately \$75 million in funds have been granted to promote research and early stage commercialization energy projects, as well as renewable energy education. Example projects include waste to energy pilot projects, biomass research, cellulosic ethanol plant construction, and wind related research and pilot projects.

### **\*NEW\* City Energy Management Program: A Regional Energy Manager Approach**

This program aims to drive demand for energy efficiency in Iowa communities by having a regional energy manager work with the communities to develop an energy management plan. This program will start in early 2014.

### **\*NEW\* Expanding Combined Heat and Power in Iowa**

Through this project, Iowa will collaborate with the Iowa Department of Natural Resources to streamline the CHP permitting process. In addition, Iowa will explore the market potential for CHP in the commercial and institutional sectors, which will culminate into a white paper that outlines the benefits of and barriers to CHP. By the end of the project, Iowa will have created a Resource Guide that will serve as a roadmap for future CHP projects.

### **Iowa Public Buildings Benchmarking Project**

The Iowa Economic Development Authority and partners plan to add at least 800 public buildings to the Iowa Benchmarking System (IBS) by October 2014. The IBS allows public sector facility managers to enter building size, usage types, utility, and other information into the system and generate reports to learn how their facilities compare to similar facilities in Iowa and around the country. The IBS can be used as a tool to track the results over time and ensure the investment is reaping the anticipated energy reductions.

### **Industrial EDGE Program**

The Industrial Economic Development by Gaining Efficiency (EDGE) Program is a recognition program that promotes energy efficiency and water conservation at industrial facilities. The program offers technical assistance focusing on strategic energy and water management as well as networking opportunities. Participants establish a baseline, set reduction goals, and establish a resource management plan. Recognition will be provided through the Governor's Office.

**Iowa Energy Bank Loan Program**

This state-sponsored low interest revolving loan program is available for public facilities. The loan fund provides the capital necessary to implement cost-effective energy projects that will save money, improve buildings, and enhance local economies.

The Iowa Economic Development Authority in partnership with the Iowa Area Development Group (IADG) is offering Iowa businesses and industries a low interest financing option for energy efficiency improvements, renewable energy projects and energy management and implementation plans.

**U.S. DOE Better Buildings Challenge**

The state of Iowa has committed to be a partner in the Better Buildings Challenge. The goal of the Better Buildings Challenge is to improve the efficiency of American commercial, institutional, and multifamily buildings and industrial plants by 20 percent or more over ten years.

**Clean Cities**

The Iowa Clean Cities Coalition is a program that incorporates a variety of public and private stakeholders to coordinate education and technical assistance on alternative fuels and advanced vehicle technologies, especially for fleets. The mission of the national Clean Cities program is to advance the nation's economic, environmental, and energy security by supporting local actions to reduce petroleum consumption in transportation. It is housed at the Iowa Economic Development Authority and a designated member of the United States Department of Energy's (U.S. DOE) Clean Cities program.

**Energy Assurance**

IEDA delegates the energy assurance responsibilities to the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship and the Iowa Utilities Board. The functions they oversee include energy planning and coordination hub for the state, promoting the synchronization of risk management activities, emergency response preparedness programs/plans, and response activities.

**Building Codes**

IEDA continues to provide financial support for the building codes program at the Iowa Department of Public Safety. The Iowa Department of Public Safety, State Building Code Bureau adopted the 2009 International Energy Conservation Code in early 2010. The Bureau has been working with local governments to train them on the code and provide the necessary technical assistance for compliance enforcement.

## CONTACTS

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