



**USDA Rural Development**

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# News Release

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## **USDA Helps Rural Businesses Make Energy Efficiency Improvements, Adopt Renewable Energy Systems in North Carolina**

RALEIGH, NC, Dec. 11, 2019 — Rural Development State Director for North Carolina Robert Hosford today announced that USDA is investing \$102 million to help farmers, ag producers and rural-based businesses lower energy costs. USDA is providing the funding through the [Rural Energy for America Program](#) (REAP).

“USDA Rural Development is driving economic development in North Carolina through its support to rural communities,” said Hosford. “The projects receiving these funds will help businesses lower energy costs and improve the business’ bottom line.”

Recipients can use REAP funding to install renewable energy systems such as biomass, geothermal, hydropower and solar. The funding can also be used to increase energy efficiency by making improvements to heating, ventilation and cooling systems; insulation; and lighting and refrigeration.

North Carolina projects announced today are:

<b>County</b>	<b>Recipient</b>	<b>Grant Amount</b>	<b>Loan Amount</b>	<b>Purpose</b>
Beaufort	Bay Branch Solar, LLC		\$ 5,000,000	Installing a Solar Array System
Buncombe	Alpha Value Solar LLC		\$ 5,000,000	Purchase Machinery and Equipment
Buncombe	Esa Four Oaks 2 NC LLC		\$ 2,215,000	Purchase Machinery and Equipment
Buncombe	Spring Hope Solar 3 LLC		\$ 5,000,000	Purchase Machinery and Equipment
Caldwell	Blue Ridge Electricmembership Corp.	\$ 62,186		Installing a Solar Array System
Cherokee	Andrews Truss, Inc.	\$ 26,573		Installing a Solar Array System
Clay	Advanced Digital Cable, Inc.	\$ 120,340		Installing a Solar Array System

Cleveland	232 Long Branch 29 Solar I, LLC		\$ 1,270,000	Installing a Solar Array System
Cleveland	MCT Holdings 4 LLC		\$ 3,277,500	Installing a Solar Array System
Currituck	Fresh Air Energy XXXIII LLC		\$ 10,000,000	Purchase Machinery and Equipment
Duplin	Nickelson Solar, LLC		\$ 5,000,000	Installing a Solar Array System
Harnett	Cubera Solar LLC		\$ 2,540,000	Installing a Solar Array System
Harnett	Kathleen Solar, LLC		\$ 4,990,000	Installing a Solar Array System
Hoke	Shelter Solar, LLC		\$ 4,925,000	Installing a Solar Array System
Iredell	J. C. Steele & Sons, Inc.	\$ 46,510		Lighting Upgrades
Johnston	Red Toad 4451 Buffalo Road, LLC		\$ 2,080,000	Installing a Solar Array System
Johnston	Red Toad 5840 Buffalo Road, LLC		\$ 2,280,000	Installing a Solar Array System
Johnston	Stony Fork Farms, Inc.	\$ 11,264		Improving Irrigation
Mecklenburg	Hickory Solar LLC		\$ 5,000,000	Purchase Machinery and Equipment
Mecklenburg	Page Solar Farm, LLC		\$ 1,310,000	Installing a Solar Array System
Mecklenburg	Three Bridge Farm, LLC		\$ 1,827,000	Installing a Solar Array System
Mecklenburg	Violet Solar, LLC		\$ 5,000,000	Installing a Solar Array System
Mecklenburg	Warrenton Solar I, LLC		\$ 4,940,000	Installing a Solar Array System
Montgomery	Troy Lumber Company	\$ 29,226		Lighting Upgrades
Moore	HCE Moore I, LLC		\$ 1,654,000	Installing a Solar Array System
Pasquotank	Glenn Pendleton Family Farms, Inc.	\$ 30,821		Upgrading Grain Dryer
Randolph	Brisco Apparel Co., Inc.	\$ 162,125		Installing a Solar Array System
Randolph	Brisco Apparel Co., Inc.		\$ 324,250	Installing a Solar Array System

Randolph	Trotters Sewing Company Inc.	\$ 40,752		Lighting Upgrades
Randolph	Zelda Holdings, LLC/Cottonwood Creek Holdings, LLC		\$ 1,700,000	Installing a Solar Array System
Robeson	MCT Holdings 2 LLC		\$ 4,155,000	Installing a Solar Array System
Robeson	MCT Holdings 3 LLC		\$ 4,218,750	Installing a Solar Array System
Sampson	Warren Solar Farm LLC		\$ 5,000,000	Installing a Solar Array System
Wake	Wendell Solar Farm LLC		\$ 4,785,000	Installing a Solar Array System
Warren	MCT Holdings LLC		\$ 3,817,500	Installing a Solar Array System
Wayne	Legacy Biogas, LLC		\$ 5,000,000	Installing a Solar Array System

In April 2017, President Donald J. Trump established the Interagency Task Force on Agriculture and Rural Prosperity to identify legislative, regulatory and policy changes that could promote agriculture and prosperity in rural communities. In January 2018, Secretary Perdue presented the Task Force’s findings to President Trump. These findings included 31 recommendations to align the federal government with state, local and tribal governments to take advantage of opportunities that exist in rural America. Supporting the rural workforce was a cornerstone recommendation of the task force.

To view the report in its entirety, please view the [Report to the President of the United States from the Task Force on Agriculture and Rural Prosperity](#) (PDF, 5.4 MB). In addition, to view the categories of the recommendations, please view the [Rural Prosperity infographic](#) (PDF, 190 KB).

USDA Rural Development provides loans and grants to help expand economic opportunities and create jobs in rural areas. This assistance supports infrastructure improvements; business development; housing; community facilities such as schools, public safety and health care; and high-speed internet access in rural areas. For more information, visit [www.rd.usda.gov](http://www.rd.usda.gov).

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