



For More Information

Information on all USDA Rural Development programs is available online or from the office serving your area.



Rural Development



Lower Your Energy Costs

Help for ag producers and rural small businesses



What are the limitations?

Our energy programs do not support residential energy projects, agricultural tillage equipment, used equipment, vehicles, or grant writing assistance.

Project technology must be commercially available.

Assistance under these programs is available to applicants in areas designated as "rural." Under law, the definition of "rural area" is different for each program.

How to get started

Contact your local USDA Rural Development office for application information or to speak to the Energy Coordinator serving your area.

Program resources like forms, guidance, certifications, checklists, and more are available online.

www.rd.usda.gov

1 (800) 670-6553 (toll free)

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Rural Development

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Lower your energy costs and boost your bottom line

Through the Rural Energy for America Program (REAP), USDA Rural Development helps finance the cost of renewable energy systems and energy efficiency improvements for rural small businesses and agricultural producers.

How can REAP help me?

Our energy programs can help fund projects that:

- Install energy efficient lighting
- Upgrade refrigeration systems
- Improve insulation, duct work, windows and other building upgrades
- Lower heating and cooling costs with heating, ventilation, and air conditioning upgrades
- Install solar panels or wind turbines
- Purchase anaerobic digesters
- Establish other renewable energy systems including geothermal or hydropower
- Convert biomass to energy
- And more



What funding is available?

Grant: may cover up to 25 percent of a project's eligible costs.

Renewable energy systems: \$2,500 minimum grant request; \$500,000 maximum grant request.

Energy efficiency projects: \$1,500 minimum grant request; \$250,000 maximum grant request.

Loan Guarantee: We may guarantee up to 85 percent of a commercial loan. Rates and terms are negotiated between you and your lender, subject to USDA approval.

Combination Loan Guarantee and Grant: You may combine assistance to cover up to 75 percent of eligible project costs.



Is REAP right for me?

If you can answer YES to these three questions, your project may be eligible.

1) Do you:

- Earn at least 51 percent of your income from farming or ranching? OR
- Operate a privately owned, for-profit small business located in a rural area or town of 50,000 people or less?

2) Are you looking for financial assistance to install one of the following at your business, farm, or ranch:

- A system that will generate renewable energy? OR
- Eligible energy efficiency measures that will reduce energy costs?

3) Is the project's technology readily available for purchase?

