

Norcross, Frank

From: Curry, Dan [Dan.Curry@greensboro-nc.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, February 02, 2010 2:20 PM
To: Norcross, Frank
Cc: Schwartz, Sue
Subject: EECBG Reporting Requirements

Mr. Norcross,

I am writing in response to the proposed reporting changes for the Department of Energy's Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant Program. First let me say that the EECBG program is one of the most promising efforts to help local governments leverage funds to incent sustainable practices. In Greensboro, we had an extensive public engagement process to develop our Energy Efficiency and Conservation Strategy which has generated a lot of interest and enthusiasm.

We are disappointed to learn the Department of Energy is considering moving from a quarterly to a monthly reporting schedule. It appears this is an emphasis on paperwork and not on production. It is going to be a challenge to meet the existing deadlines as it stands. To lose two days a month to reporting are two less days we have staff time for implementation. This seems directly counter to the emphases to get activities launched and well underway.

We have received quite a bit of assistance from DOE staff and everyone has been pleasant to work with, it has been frustrating to deal with conflicting reporting requirements, varying interpretations of regulations etc breakdowns with the PAGE and ARRA reporting websites. If the intent to have local governments move more quickly to implementation by requiring more frequent reporting, we would strongly suggest this be reconsidered and more resources be made available for technical assistance to localities as they work through the complexities of implementing the activities.

Again, I need to state how much promise we see in the EECBG program and dedicating to implement activities successfully. We hope with a focus on assistance and not paperwork it can reach its potential.

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