

Business Grants Available for Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Systems from USDA Rural Development

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Energy conservation and renewable energy production are increasing the bottom line for businesses in Vermont and New Hampshire. USDA Rural Development can pay for up to 25% of eligible efficiency or renewable energy system costs with grant funds and help finance an additional 50% of the project costs with a guaranteed loan. The maximum grants are \$500,000 for renewable systems and \$250,000 for efficiency projects.

In many cases, USDA RD can help a business structure a deal that requires no “out-of-pocket” cash.

Examples of Vermont and New Hampshire renewable energy and energy efficiency projects previously funded include installation of energy efficient lighting, development of biomass boiler systems, improvements to HVAC, upgraded refrigeration systems, geothermal heating systems and installation of reverse osmosis equipment for maple producers.

USDA RD grant and loan guarantee funds may be combined with grants or loans from other private, state or local sources such as bank loans, efficiency rebates or renewable energy generation incentive programs.

Businesses interested in learning more about the program and to determine if they qualify, should contact USDA Rural Development at 603-223-6045.