

Technical Assistance Project

Weatherization and Intergovernmental Program

weatherization



Take the Next Step Toward Your Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Goals

What is the Technical Assistance Project?

The Technical Assistance Project (TAP) is designed to provide state and local officials quick access to experts at DOE national laboratories for assistance with crosscutting renewable energy and energy efficiency policies and programs. Currently, three laboratories provide technical assistance: National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL), Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL), and Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory (LBNL).

TAP helps states with individualized, short-term assistance in areas that are not covered by other DOE programs, such as:

- System benefit charges or other rate-payer funded utility efficiency and renewable programs
- Renewable or efficiency portfolio standards
- Use of clean energy technologies to help states and localities address air emissions
- Use of renewable energy on state and local public lands
- Use of renewable and energy efficiency technologies for state and local disaster relief, mitigation, and planning.

As of November 2005, TAP has received 81 requests and has provided more than \$350,000 worth of assistance to state and local officials.

Requests that go beyond these areas are considered on a case-by-case basis. Projects are limited to \$5,000 or between 30–60 hours of staff time.

Funding is not distributed directly to the applicant, but rather used to cover staff time and travel for laboratory experts.



Seattle Filmworks/PIX01691

Examples of Recent Projects

Projects have varied in topic and type of assistance:

- Analysis of renewable portfolio standard options
- Quantification of emissions reductions from an energy efficiency project
- Options for developing wind power on state lands to meet state energy purchases
- Analysis of residential energy efficiency program options under a public benefits fund
- Analysis of biodiesel use for state heating and transportation
- Analysis of options for state efficiency portfolio standard policies
- Soil analysis to convert state-owned mines to bioenergy farms
- Pollution prevention options such as adding renewable energy into city district heating.

TAP Assistance In Pennsylvania

In early 2004, the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection was crafting an innovative advanced energy portfolio standard on behalf of their Governor. The state approached TAP for assistance, and Ryan Wiser of LBNL provided technical assistance as they developed their policy proposal. The Governor announced this proposal in his 2004 State of the State address, and the state General Assembly passed the Alternative Energy Bill in November 2004. State officials noted, "Ryan Wiser's assistance was critical in educating us in general about renewable energy portfolio standards, but also in helping us to craft the original proposal."

How to Apply

The application process is quick and simple. Just get in touch with the TAP representative at a DOE Regional Office in your region. The representative will determine if your request for assistance qualifies, and if so, they will take some basic information from you over the phone, or by email. Many projects begin to receive assistance within a week or two.



U.S. Department of Energy
Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy

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For More Information:

Contact a DOE Regional Office in your region or visit <http://www.eere.energy.gov/wip/informationresources/tap.html>

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Spire Solar Chicago/PIX13789

A Strong Energy Portfolio for a Strong America

Energy efficiency and clean, renewable energy will mean a stronger economy, cleaner environment, and greater energy independence for America. Working with a wide array of state, community, industry, and university partners, the U.S. Department of Energy's Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy invests in a diverse portfolio of energy technologies.

For more information, contact:
EERE Information Center
1-877-EERE-INF, 1-877-337-3463
www.eere.energy.gov

The National Renewable Energy Laboratory, a DOE national laboratory, produces *Technical Assistance Project* fact sheets for:

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