

REBUILD AMERICA PROGRAM INFORMATION

STAC and the Department of Energy (DOE) are in the process of transferring management responsibilities for the Rebuild America Program from DOE to STAC as directed by Congress pursuant to the fiscal year 2005 appropriations process. It is expected that transfer of the program will be complete by April 30, 2005.

Summary. The Rebuild America Program will continue to foster energy efficiency in existing buildings within the commercial, government and multifamily housing sectors. The program's focus is to provide assistance to projects that lead to the best available building technologies and practices, resulting in improved energy efficiency, reduced pollution, and a more modern infrastructure. This will be accomplished primarily through solicitations focused on State and local entities that can facilitate projects and provide "on-the-ground" results. The program will also provide technical assistance, coordination of stakeholder activities, and dissemination of results aimed at furthering the transformation of the built environment.

Management and execution of the program will be by the STAC Program Director as directed by the STAC Executive Committee.

Program Elements. Following are the five major elements of the proposed program. It should be noted that some of these elements are part of the existing program, which will continue. Note that overall funding for the program was reduced from \$10.97 million in FY 2004 to \$8.7 million in FY 2005.

- (1) **SEP Special Projects Solicitation.** Activity in this area is a continuation of the funding of State-based projects contained in the annual solicitation managed by the National Energy Technology Laboratory (NETL). No substantive changes are anticipated in this work and a solicitation for this activity was issued by NETL on February 18, 2005 (\$3.7 million). Any questions concerning this process should be directed to Denise Riggi of NETL at driggi@netl.doe.gov.
- (2) **STAC Rebuild Project Solicitation.** The solicitation issued in this activity will concentrate on areas defined by a joint planning team consisting of personnel from NASEO, ASERTTI, and DOE and will endeavor, to the extent practicable, to employ innovative techniques aimed at energy efficiency and other performance characteristics of buildings which will be replicable on a wide-spread basis. Dissemination and replication will be an integral part of project requirements as will the requirement for multi-State participation and local cooperation and coordination. Planning for this activity will assure that the overall emphasis of the solicitation is complementary to, but distinct from, SEP Special Projects activity. It is expected that this solicitation will be part of the broader STAC solicitation scheduled for release in April 2005. Current plans are also to combine funds available from FY 2005 and those expected to be available in FY 2006 for awards under this solicitation.
- (3) **Local Government Support.** Specific funding will be allocated to ensuring local government-sponsored projects are also able to participate in the program. The nature of the project support provided in this activity will be determined in consultation with organizations representing local government entities. In this

solicitation, as in the STAC Rebuild Project Solicitation in item (2) above, current plans are to combine funds available from FY 2005 and those expected from FY 2006 into the awards under this solicitation.

Note: The above activities will be carried out through solicitations issued annually pending the availability of funding from Congress, and will include continued low overhead and rapid contracting which have been hallmarks of the STAC program. DOE will continue to issue the Rebuild SEP Special Projects solicitation, within the broader SEP Special Projects solicitation, in consultation with STAC in order to insure that solicitation topic areas across the Rebuild America program are complementary, and STAC will issue the remaining solicitations.

- (4) Technical Assistance.** Assistance to projects selected within the Rebuild America Program as well as projects being undertaken independently, will be closely coordinated by STAC and will be available from resources that may include National Laboratories, State research institutes, DOE Regional Offices, other Federal agencies, and private sector organizations. Such assistance could include aid in selection of appropriate technologies, project financing, benefit analysis, best practices, and other assistance identified by stakeholders. STAC will investigate and encourage the use of peer-to-peer technical assistance as an integral part of this activity.
- (5) Coordination and Management.** STAC activities will include coordination with State and local Governments and associations, existing Rebuild America partnerships, and private sector organizations (such as “Rebuild Business Partners”) to assure that the program is structured to provide maximum support to project activity. Compilation of results and lessons learned as well as dissemination of information and maintenance of databases and websites are part of this activity. Appropriate metrics will be determined to satisfy the goals of the program. Strategic planning will be undertaken to assure that the reconstituted program is structured to achieve the goals of the program. Such planning will attempt to closely integrate energy and environmental policies in the management and execution of the program. Expanded coordination with complementary EPA, HUD, and DOE programs will be part of this effort.