

Energy Policy Update

Energy and Environmental News

October 19, 2009



ARIZONA DEPARTMENT
OF COMMERCE

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economic advancement*

This newsletter is published by the Arizona Department of Commerce Energy Office and is provided free of charge to the public. It contains verbatim excerpts from international and domestic energy and environment-related publications reviewed by the Education and Community Outreach personnel. For inquiries, call **(602) 771-1143** or toll free **(800) 352-5499**. Compiled and edited by Gloria Castro, Special Projects Coordinator. To register to receive this newsletter electronically, email [Gloria Castro](mailto:Gloria.Castro).

For additional program information, access: <http://www.azcommerce.com/Energy/Energy+Policy+Update+-+%28Monthly+Publication%29.htm>.

Click [here](#) to view [Grant Opportunities](#) from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA).

FOR YOUR CONVENIENCE, ARIZONA-RELATED TITLES ARE HIGHLIGHTED IN BLUE

ARIZONA

APS Says Power Needs Met During Record Summer Heat

[Phoenix Business Journal, Oct. 14] Arizona Public Service Co. managed to stay below its peak power needs this summer, despite some of the hottest days on record. The company recorded a peak demand of 7,218 megawatts July 27, just shy of the 7,254 megawatts the company had predicted it would need. That came despite the average July temperature reaching 98.3 degrees this year and 26 days with a high above 110. Operations at Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station helped provide the base load for the utility as all three units ran a full power this summer.

Governor Brewer Warns EPA of Impact of New Regulations

[Arizona Dept. of Commerce web site, Oct. 13] Arizona Governor Jan Brewer has strongly urged the United States Environmental Protection Agency to consider likely long-term job and water delivery impacts as it determines new federal rules that threaten the source of power for the Central Arizona Project (CAP). The decision to proceed with the costly new rules could create severe economic impact to communities served by CAP and the Navajo Generating Station (NGS).

Governor Jan Brewer Awards Stimulus Funds to Arizona School Districts for Solar Projects

[Arizona Dept. of Commerce web site, Oct. 13] Governor Jan Brewer today announced 15 Arizona school districts will receive American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) funds for solar energy projects at schools throughout the state. The funding is part of the \$55,447,000 awarded to the Arizona Department of Commerce Energy Office through the State Energy Program (SEP). The School Facilities Board (SFB) is managing the Solar on Schools grants for the state. The grant will provide more than \$5 million to procure photovoltaic systems for the qualifying school districts. The current round of funding appropriates \$2.6 million for school solar projects.

GreenBuild Event Could Pump Up to \$29M into Valley Economy

[Phoenix Business Journal, Oct. 16] Aficionados and purveyors of green building will descend on the Valley next month, bringing with them a short-term economic boost and the potential for a long-term impact on the region's sustainable construction industry. The GreenBuild International Conference and Expo, put on Nov. 11-13 by the U.S. Green Building Council, is expected to bring thousands of out-of-town guests to events downtown and all over the Phoenix metro area. It also will provide a chance to showcase local green building projects with tours, meetings and a glimpse of how to turn the desert a brighter shade than brown.

National Conservation Grant Funds Efficiency Plan for Rural Arizona

[Nogales International, Oct. 14] One of 48 TogetherGreen national innovation grants will power new efforts to help a rural Arizona community to significantly reduce its dependence on fossil fuel consumption through energy-efficient upgrades and greener standards on new construction. The Appleton-Whittell Research Ranch, Audubon Arizona, Sonoita Crossroads Community Forum and Cienega Watershed Partnership will team up to bring energy-efficient technology and a grassroots educational network that encourages individual conservation actions to Santa Cruz County.

P&Z Gives-Go Ahead for Solar Energy Project

[Mohave Daily News, Oct. 14] Kingman - Despite almost overwhelming opposition from neighbors and other residents, the county's planning and zoning commission approved Wednesday the first step for a large-scale solar energy project in Mohave County. The commissioners approved a change to the county's general plan and the Silverado Area Plan and rezoned the land from agricultural residential to heavy manufacturing for Albiasa Corporation's 200-megawatt solar power project. The plant would be located on 1,800 acres off Highway 93 north of Wikieup.

Scottsdale Tops among Cities Pursuing Sustainable Growth

[Arizona Republic, Oct. 9] Scottsdale's efforts to build an environmentally conscious and livable community are being shown as an example for other cities to follow.

ALTERNATIVE ENERGY AND EFFICIENCY

" EDP Chief Maps Solar Strategy on Cheap Land in U.S. (Update1)

[Bloomberg, Oct. 15] EDP-Energias de Portugal SA, the country's biggest power company, said the U.S. is the most attractive market for expanding in solar energy. The company, the world's fourth-biggest generator of wind power since acquiring Texas-based Horizon Wind Energy LLC from Goldman Sachs Group Inc. in 2007, is considering solar projects after developing wind farms from New York to Oregon.

Electric Cars Promise Crowded but Quieter Roads

[Associated Press, Oct. 15] When Nissan starts selling its Leaf electric cars in Oregon next year, the early adapters will be able to recharge at home in their garages or at a growing network of public stations. The network got a boost this month when Scottsdale, Ariz.-based Electric Transportation Engineering Corp. announced that it had been awarded a \$99.8 million U.S. Energy Department grant to install 11,210 electric-vehicle charging stations in five states, including Oregon. The buildup of the charging network dovetails with Nissan's previously announced decision to start selling its Leaf electric vehicle in selected markets, including Portland.

U.S. Army to Build 500 MW Solar Power Plant

[Reuters, Oct. 15] Los Angeles - The U.S. military is tackling a new mission in the field of alternative energy, moving to power up a 500-megawatt solar facility at Fort Irwin's sprawling desert complex in California. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers tapped ACCIONA Solar Power, a unit of Spain's Acciona SA (ANA.MC), and Clark Energy Group to develop the project, which launched its first phase on Thursday. The project, located at the Army's largest training range in California's Mojave Desert, could grow as large as 1 gigawatt in the future.

Wood Making Comeback as Power Source

[USA Today, Oct. 14] One of the world's oldest energy sources is making a comeback. Across the USA, power plants are turning to wood to make electricity. The move is spurred by state mandates to encourage renewable power and by bills moving through Congress that require more renewable electricity nationwide.

LEGISLATION AND REGULATION

Department of Energy Announces Steps to Strengthen Enforcement of Energy Efficiency Standards

[U.S. Dept. of Energy EERE web site, Oct. 13] Washington, DC - Today, the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) announced three new steps to strengthen its ability to enforce energy efficiency standards. These new steps are part of the Department's ongoing effort to save energy for American consumers and businesses by clearing the

backlog of energy efficiency standards for appliances and aggressively enforcing energy efficiency standards. This summer, as part of its tougher enforcement efforts under the new Administration, DOE initiated investigations of alleged violations against both an air conditioner manufacturer and a freezer manufacturer. Both investigations are expected to be concluded shortly.

DOE Launches Online Resource to Help Local Governments Expand Use of Solar Energy

[U.S. Dept. of Energy EERE web site, Oct. 13] The U.S. Department of Energy today announced the availability of a new online resource for local governments that assists community leaders and local stakeholders in building sustainable local solar markets. The online publication, *Solar Powering Your Community: A Guide for Local Governments*, provides local governments with proven best practices enabling them to drive economic development, support clean energy jobs, and reduce carbon emissions by building a robust local solar market.

Energy and Water, Homeland Security Bills Advance

[Associated Press, Oct. 15] Washington, D.C. - The Senate on Thursday approved a bill to basically freeze spending on energy and water projects next year after pouring tens of billions of dollars into them as part of last winter's economic stimulus plan. The 80-17 vote on the compromise House-Senate plan cleared the measure for President Barack Obama's signature. The bill is just the third of 12 annual spending bills to clear Congress for the 2010 budget year that began Oct. 1. The popular \$33.5 billion measure funds renewable energy research, Army Corps of Engineers water projects, nuclear weapons safety and security and environmental cleanup. That's more than the \$33.3 billion a year earlier and less than the \$34.4 billion the White House requested.

2010 Annual Fuel Economy Guide Now Available

[U.S. Dept. of Energy - EERE web site, Oct. 15] Washington, D.C. – The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the Department of Energy today unveiled the 2010 Fuel Economy Guide, which gives consumers important information about estimated fuel costs and mileage standards for model year 2010 vehicles

ENERGY-GENERAL

Curbing Emissions by Sealing Gas Leaks

[New York Times, Oct. 14] To the naked eye, there was nothing to be seen at a natural gas well in eastern Texas but beige pipes and tanks baking in the sun. But in the viewfinder of Terry Gosney's infrared camera, three black plumes of gas gushed through leaks that were otherwise invisible. "Holy smoke, it's blowing like mad," said Mr. Gosney, an environmental field coordinator for EnCana, the Canadian gas producer that operates the year-old well near Franklin, Tex. "It does look nasty." Within a few days the leaks had been sealed by workers.

ENERGY-RELATED ENVIRONMENT

Carbon Emissions See Big Two-Year Drop

[New York Times, Oct. 14] Reducing emissions of carbon dioxide may be a little easier than most people think. Between 2007 and 2009, domestic emissions could drop by 9 percent — a massive decline due in part to the economic downturn, and in part to a new push to improve efficiency and develop renewable fuels — according to the Earth Policy Institute, a Washington-based environmental group.

WESTERN POWER

California Looks to Limit Big Screen TVs

[San Francisco Business Times, Oct. 14] California could ban some types of big screen televisions because they use too much power. The state's energy commission has proposed limits on big screen plasma and liquid crystal TV sets. The move is supported by power utilities and opposed by electronics industry groups.

Small Clean-Energy Producers Get a Boost

[New York Times, Oct. 15] Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger of California signed two bills into law on Sunday that may help the state meet its ambitious renewable energy goals and beef up its solar industry. One bill requires utilities to buy power from a larger pool of small solar generators for above-market prices. The idea, modeled after similar programs in Germany, is to increase market access for small-scale producers of solar power — to 3 megawatts from 1.5 megawatts.

SolarCity Offers New Way for Oregon Homeowners to Buy Solar Power

[The Oregonian, Oct. 8] For years, a big obstacle to sticking solar panels on your roof has been coming up with the cash for it, with costs for a modest set of panels starting about \$18,000 a pop. SolarCity, which unveiled its residential solar program for Oregon homeowners Thursday, has a different approach: You get the panels for 10 years with no money down, instead paying SolarCity a rate for the electricity generated that's about the same as what you would pay your electric utility anyway.

Super Hub Planned to Move Renewable Energy

[Associated Press, Oct. 15] Albuquerque, N.M. - By any yardstick, it's an ambitious project: allow energy to flow more freely across the nation's three massive power grids, breaking down significant barriers to ramping up alternative energy in the United States. A proposed "Tres Amigas Super Station" in Clovis, N.M., would do just that, routing energy from isolated wind and solar installations to urban centers and other places that consume the most power.

INDUSTRIES AND TECHNOLOGIES

For Wind Power Developers, Outlook Brightens

[New York Times, Oct. 16] Wind energy representatives are crediting the federal government's stimulus package for restarting their hobbled industry. In particular, a provision that turns a "production tax credit" into direct grant money that can cover 30 percent of a project's cost has proved especially helpful. The Department of Energy has already announced more than \$1 billion in grants through the program.

German Innovation Would Charge Your Car While You Drive

[Yahoo Tech, Oct. 15] One of the usual complaints about electric cars is how you handle long road trips. If an electric vehicle has a range of just a couple hundred miles, and then requires eight hours plugged into the wall, well, that family drive from San Francisco to Los Angeles turns from one long (but manageable) day of driving into a three-day ordeal. But what if you could charge your car while you were on the road? That's the idea behind Germany's IAV Automotive Engineering, which has patented a system that embeds charging electronics right into the roadway, juicing up cars as they merrily roll along.

GASOLINE AND DIESEL FUEL

To view Arizona and U.S. Gasoline and Diesel fuel data plus other pertinent oil information click [here](http://www.azcommerce.com/Energy/MotorFuel/).
<http://www.azcommerce.com/Energy/MotorFuel/>

GRANTS

The RFPs created or supplemented as a result of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (Recovery Act) are identified in the RFP titles.

Support of Advanced Coal Research at U.S. Colleges

To develop and sustain a national program of university research, the DOE is interested in innovative and fundamental research pertinent to coal conversion and utilization. This year, research is limited to three broad areas: Computational Energy Sciences, Material Science, and Novel Materials for Sensing or Monitoring in Extreme Environments of Fossil Energy Systems. An application must propose research that is responsive to one of these areas. Reference Number: DE-FOA-0000146 Response Due Date: 11/24/2009 8:00:00 PM ET

Use the following link to view this opportunity:

<https://www.fedconnect.net/fedconnect?doc=DE-FOA-0000146&agency=DOE>

Commercial Renewable Power Generation

US Department of Energy Financial Institutional Partnership Program (FIPP) for Commercial Renewable Power Generation Solicitation - Solicitation Reference Number: DE-FOA-0000166 Response Due Date: 11/23/2009 11:59:00 PM ET.

Use the following link to view this opportunity:

<https://www.fedconnect.net/fedconnect?doc=DE-FOA-0000166&agency=DOE>

People, Prosperity and the Planet

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency requests proposals for the 7th Annual P3 Awards: A National Student Design Competition for Sustainability Focusing on People, Prosperity and the Planet. P3 supports R&D and design solutions to real world challenges involving the overall sustainability of human society. Areas of interest include: Energy, Built Environment, Materials and Chemicals, Water, and Agriculture. \$850K expected to be available, up to 46 awards anticipated. Responses due 1/5/10. For more info, contact [Cynthia L. Nolt-Helms](mailto:Cynthia.L.Nolt-Helms@epa.gov) at nolt-helms.cynthia@epa.gov or go to: http://epa.gov/ncer/rfa/2010/2010_p3.html. Refer to Sol# EPA-G2010-P3. (Grants.gov 8/28/09)

Electric Power Sector Workforce Training - Recovery Act

The U.S. Department of Energy requests proposals for Workforce Training for the Electric Power Sector. This initiative will support the development of a well-trained, highly skilled electric power sector workforce which is vital to implementing a national clean-energy smart grid. \$100 million expected to be available, up to 45 awards anticipated. Responses due 11/30/09. For more info, contact John Wiltshire at [John J Wiltshire@RL.gov](mailto:John.J.Wiltshire@RL.gov) or go to: <http://www.grants.gov/search/search.do?mode=VIEW&opId=49601>. Refer to Sol# DE-FOA-0000152. (Grants.gov 9/21/09)

DOE SBIR/STTR Phase I

The U.S. Department of Energy requests proposals for Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) Small Business Technology Transfer Phase I. SBIR/STTR supports R&D from small businesses concerning scientific or engineering problems and opportunities that are likely to lead to significant public benefit if the research is successful. 68 topics of interest identified, which include, but are not limited to: Hydrogen, Fuel Cells, and Infrastructure Technologies; Geothermal, Wind and Solar Technology Development; Production of Biofuels from Cellulosic Biomass; Technologies Related to Energy Storage for Hybrid and Plug-in Electric Vehicles; Transitional Technologies for Solid State Lighting; Energy Efficient Membranes for Industrial Applications; Hydrogen Safety, Storage, Delivery, and Production; Climate Control Technology for Fossil Energy Applications; Carbon Cycle Measurements of the Atmosphere and the Biosphere; Enhanced Availability of Climate Model Output; and Atmospheric Measurement Technology. \$36 million expected to be available, up to 360 awards anticipated. Responses due 11/20/09. For more info, contact Carl Hebron at sbir-sttr@science.doe.gov or go to: <http://www.grants.gov/search/search.do?mode=VIEW&opId=49632>. Refer to Sol# DE-FOA-0000161. (Grants.gov 9/24/09)

DOT SBIR Phase I

The U.S. Department of Transportation requests proposals for the Small Business Innovation Research Program Phase I. Through SBIR, small businesses are invited to submit innovative research proposals that address high priority requirements of the U.S. DOT. Areas of interest include, but are not limited to: Safer, Greener, User-Friendly Bus and Rail Transit, and Expert System Traffic Signal Analysis Tools. Responses due 11/16/09. For more info, contact Darren Shaffer at DARREN.SHAFER@DOT.GOV or go to: https://www.fbo.gov/index?s=opportunity&mode=form&id=da99113ce332478f65d6c56e0ca2564c&tab=core&_cview=1. Refer to Sol# DTRT57-10-SBIRI. (FBO 10/1/09)

NSF SBIR Phase I

The National Science Foundation requests proposals for Phase I Small Business Innovation Research Program Phase I. This program seeks to stimulate technological innovation in the private sector by strengthening the role of small business concerns in meeting Federal research and development needs, increasing the commercial application of federally supported research results, and fostering and encouraging participation by socially and economically disadvantaged and women-owned small businesses. Areas of interest include, but are not limited to: Biotech and Chemical Technologies, Nanotechnology, Advanced Materials, and Manufacturing. \$45 million expected to be available, up to 300 awards anticipated. Responses due 12/3/09. For more info, including topic-specific contacts, go to: http://www.nsf.gov/publications/pub_summ.jsp?ods_key=nsf09609. Refer to Sol# 09-609. (Grants.gov 8/31/09)

Soldiers and Portable Fuel Cells

The U.S. Department of the Air Force announces its intent to requests proposals to evaluate existing soldier portable fuel cell technology in the 50W power level and continue to develop this technology in areas including, but not limited to, ruggedization, reliability, energy/power density and improved startup time. The offerors must be able to demonstrate that a feasible approach exists for improving upon the current state of the art. Mission parameters dictate that any solution should be designed with a 72hr mission in mind. \$6.2 million expected to be available. For more info, contact Mary Lykins at mary.lykins@wpafb.af.mil or go to: https://www.fbo.gov/index?s=opportunity&mode=form&id=61a8f53d304cb028c6edea06485f8ee5&tab=core&_cview=1. Refer to BAA-03-05-PRK, Amendment 17. (FBO 9/24/09)

Green and Healthy Homes

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development requests proposals for the Green and Healthy Homes and Technical Studies Program. Through this RFP, HUD seeks to improve knowledge of the effects residential green construction has on both indoor environmental quality and occupant health, with a particular focus on children and other sensitive populations. It is expected that benefits would be most likely observed for respiratory health outcomes and reductions in irritation-related symptoms. \$2.4 million expected to be available, up to 7 awards anticipated. Responses due 11/17/09. For more info, contact Peter Ashley at Peter.J.Ashley@hud.gov or go to: <http://www.hud.gov/offices/adm/grants/nofa09/grplead.cfm>. Refer to Sol# FR-5300-N-20. (Grants.gov 9/22/09)

Healthy Homes Demonstration

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development requests proposals for the Healthy Homes Demonstration Program. This program supports methods for identifying and controlling key housing-related environmental health and safety hazards; builds local capacity to operate sustainable programs that will prevent and control housing-related environmental health and safety hazards in low- and very low-income residences when HUD funding is exhausted; and affirmatively further fair housing and environmental justice. Hazard areas include, but are not limited to: Mold and Moisture; Combustion Products of Heating and Cooking; Lack of Security, Recreational Opportunities, or Green Space; Lead-Based Paint Poisoning; and Radon. \$6 million expected to be available, up to 10 awards anticipated. Responses due 11/24/09. For more info, contact Peter Ashley at Peter.J.Ashley@hud.gov or go to: <http://www.hud.gov/offices/adm/grants/nofa09/grplead.cfm>. Refer to Sol# FR-5300-N-17. (Grants.gov 9/21/09)

Lead Hazard Control Capacity Building

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development requests proposals for the Lead Hazard Control Capacity Building Program. This program supports the development of infrastructure necessary to undertake comprehensive programs to identify and control lead-based paint hazards in privately owned rental or owner-occupied housing. \$1.7 million expected to be available, up to 30 awards anticipated. Responses due 11/19/09. For more info, contact Peter Ashley at Peter.J.Ashley@hud.gov or go to: <http://www.hud.gov/offices/adm/grants/nofa09/grplead.cfm>. Refer to Sol# FR-5300-N-31. (Grants.gov 9/22/09)

Urban and Community Forestry Challenge

The U.S. Department of Agriculture requests proposals for the National Urban and Community Forestry Challenge Cost Share Grant Program. This program supports urban and community forestry projects that will demonstrate the reach, resources, and expertise needed to address four priority areas in ways that lead to meaningful, replicable results. Priority areas include: Energy Conservation, Climate Change, Public Health, and Green Infrastructure Assessment. \$900K expected to be available, up to 10 awards anticipated. Pre-proposals are required and are due 12/15/09, final proposals due 3/17/10. For more info, contact Nancy Stremple at nstremple@fs.fed.us or go to: <http://www.grants.gov/search/search.do?mode=VIEW&oppld=49602>. Refer to Sol# USDA-FS-UCF-01-2010. (Grants.gov 9/21/09)

Value-Added Producer Grant Program

The U.S. Department of Agriculture requests proposals for the Value-Added Producer Grant Program. This program provides support to the agriculture community to develop strategies to create marketing opportunities and business plans for viable marketing opportunities. Ventures must be limited to emerging markets and new markets for value-added products. This may include, but is not limited to: Alternative uses of agricultural products, processing of agricultural commodities to produce bio-materials, green chemicals, on-farm renewable energy, and biofuels. \$1.84 million expected to be available, up to 130 awards anticipated. Responses due 11/30/09. For more info, contact Tracey Kennedy at CPGrants@wdc.usda.gov or go to: <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/rbs/coops/vadg.htm>. Refer to Sol# RDBCP-09-VAPG. (Grants.gov 9/1/09)

Water and Wastewater

The U.S. Department of Agriculture requests proposals for the Technical Assistance and Training (TAT) Grant Program. This program supports projects that identify and evaluate solutions to water and waste disposal problems in rural areas, assist applicants in preparing applications for water and waste grants made at the State level offices, and improve O&M of existing water and waste disposal facilities in rural areas. \$17 million expected to be available, up to 11 awards anticipated. Responses due 12/31/09. For more info, contact Anita Obrien at anita.obrien@wdc.usda.gov or go to: <http://www.usda.gov/rus/water/tatg.htm>. Refer to Sol# RDUP-TAT-09302009-FY10. (Grants.gov 9/30/09)

Solid Waste Management

The U.S. Department of Agriculture requests proposals for the Solid Waste Management Grant Program. This program supports projects that assist communities through free technical assistance and/or training geared towards reducing or eliminating pollution of water resources in rural areas, and improve planning and management of solid waste sites in rural areas. \$3.4 million expected to be available, up to 40 awards anticipated. Responses due 12/31/09. For more info, contact LaVonda Pernel at lavonda.pernell@wdc.usda.gov or go to: <http://www.usda.gov/rus/water/SWVG.htm>. Refer to Sol# RDUP-SWMGRANT-093009-FY20. (Grants.gov 9/30/09)

Brownfields Job Training

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency requests proposals for Brownfields Job Training Grants. This program supports the delivery of environmental job training to communities that currently receive, or have received, financial assistance from EPA for brownfields- related work. \$2.6 million expected to be available, up to 13 awards anticipated. Responses due 12/1/09. For more info, including Regional contacts, go to: <http://www.epa.gov/oswer/grants-funding.htm#EPA-OSWER-ORCR-09-07>. Refer to Sol# EPA-OSWER-OBLR-09-07. (Grants.gov 9/30/09)

Building Engineered Complex Systems

The National Science Foundation requests proposals for Building Engineered Complex Systems. This initiative will support small teams of innovative engineers and mathematical scientists to seek and develop a theoretical basis of complex systems, with the aim of developing formal methods for the design of engineered complex systems. Examples included, but were not limited to: Power grids, manufacturing and service enterprises, and environmental systems. \$4 million expected to be available, up to 20 awards anticipated. Responses due 1/19/10. For more info, go to: http://www.nsf.gov/publications/pub_summ.jsp?ods_key=nsf09610. Refer to Sol# 09-610. (Grants.gov 9/22/09)

Renewables and RECs – Arizona

Tucson Electric Power Inc. and UNS Electric Inc. seek approximately 50,000 MWh of eligible solar energy resources and the associated RECs to meet Arizona RPS requirements. Responses due 11/30/09. For more info, contact Harold Judd at hjudd@acciongroup.com or go to: <http://www.uesaz.com/wholesale/>. (Green Power Network 9/29/09)

Special thanks to the Washington State University Extension Energy Program for collecting this information.
