



Sustainable Municipal Efficiency and Renewables Financing (SMERF)

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Presentation Road Map

- Humboldt County
- Program Elements
- Timeline
- How the CEC / State can help

Rural areas need these programs too, and can face unique implementation barriers. Our program can serve as a model for rural areas.

Humboldt County



http://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/9/9f/Humboldt_Bay_and_Eureka_aerial_view.jpg/800pxHumboldt_Bay_and_Eureka_aerial_view.jpg

Humboldt County

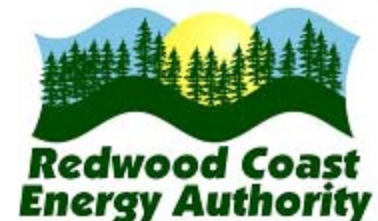
- Over 70% of homes are pre-title 24
- More than 50% of greenhouse gas emissions from the building sector
- >\$319 million leaves the county annually for energy costs



http://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/7/73/Carson_Mansion_Eureka_California.jpg

The Redwood Coast Energy Authority (RCEA)

- Joint Powers Authority
- Seven municipalities, County, and the Humboldt Bay Municipal Water District are represented on the board of directors
- Strong presence in the community
- EnergyWatch partnership with PG&E



Headwaters Fund



<http://chamber.sunnyfortuna.com/images/redwoods.jpg>

- Established in 1999 to offset economic impacts of Headwater Reserve
- “Economic prosperity and quality of life for all Humboldt County residents.”
- Requesting \$1 million



Program Structure

- RCEA will administer the program for each City and the County
 - Helps to establish economies of scale
 - Could be a great model for rural areas
- Energy assessments, marketing, and outreach will be offered by RCEA
- Private source of funding through the Headwaters Foundation



Program Nuts and Bolts

- Open to property owners living within assessment districts
- Funds apply to permanent energy improvements and renewable energy
 - Non-permanent improvements, i.e. refrigerator, dishwasher, etc could be purchased as cost match
- Requesting 18 months pre and post access to PG&E bills to monitor program effectiveness



Financing Model

- 20 year term, 5% interest
 - Flat rate service charge will be folded into financing to cover program costs
- Loans require 50% match:
 - Rebate money can serve as match
 - Energy efficiency investments also may serve as match
- Loading order required
 - Each participant will receive an energy assessment
 - In order to use funding for renewables, basic efficiency must be met

50% Match:

- \$20,000 2 kW PV system
- \$10,000 eligible for financing
- \$6,000 available from federal tax credit
 - ~\$2,000 available from CSI
 - Homeowner is required to pay difference as match, \$2000
- Remaining portion could also be covered in energy efficiency investments

Timeline

- Program development since November of 2008
- May 19th presentation to the Headwaters Board
- Stakeholder sessions between now and early July



Timeline

- Pending Headwaters approval, presentation to County Board of Supervisors in early July
- Coordinated approach for each of the seven municipalities on the RCEA Board
- Aiming for program roll out by the end of August



Assistance from the State

- Buy down interest rate
- Supplement the funding for energy performance assessments
- Establish a local rebate program for efficiency
- Statewide standard / rebate program for energy efficiency retrofits



Assistance from the State: Potential Issues

- If stimulus money is used, does this mean ARRA obligations are attached?
 - ‘Buy America,’ prevailing wage?
 - If so, could rebate program help offset increase in cost due to prevailing wage?
- Timeline



Questions?

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