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To: TJPD Commissioners
From: Billie Campbell, COO
Date: February 25, 2010

Reference: Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG)

Purpose: To update the Commission on EECBG funding.

Background: The Virginia Department of Mines Minerals and Energy (DMME) accepted competitive applications in November 2009 from eligible local governments (those not receiving a direct EECBG grant) for \$9.17 million in block grant funds for energy efficiency. Three applications from our region were submitted: a regional application on behalf of the Charlottesville HOME Consortium to establish a Heat Pump Revolving Loan Fund to upgrade units for increased efficiency; Greene County for energy efficiency upgrades at William Monroe High School; and Nelson County for upgrades to environmental control systems in school buildings.

Issues: At the VAPDC meeting in Richmond on February 17, an announcement was made about EECBG awards. The regional application for the revolving loan fund for heat pump upgrades was selected for award. This was the only grant selected from our region. Participating localities in the HOME heat pump program are Fluvanna, Greene, Louisa and Nelson Counties. The requested amount was \$199,980 with \$54,000 of local leveraged funding. The local leveraged funding will be provided by the HOME Consortium member serving each of the four counties. The grant period is February 2010 through June 2011. A total of 36 households will benefit by replacing inefficient units near the end of their useful life with new high efficiency 16 SEER heat pumps. All repaid and recaptured EECBG funds will be returned to the loan fund for use toward additional heat pump replacement projects beyond the end of the grant.

Recommendations: Staff will attend training on March 4 on grant administration and reporting requirements, and get the program underway as soon as possible. Housing Directors have already identified some eligible clients for the program. Initial steps will include executing agreements with sub-recipients and pre-qualifying contractors.

Action Needed: This is an information item only.