



NORTH COAST INTEGRATED REGIONAL WATER MANAGEMENT PLAN

North Coast Integrated Regional Water Management Plan Energy Independence Program OPPORTUNITY FOR REGIONAL GRANT APPLICATION

The North Coast Integrated Regional Water Management Plan is moving forward with a regional application for the California Energy Commission, Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant Program (EECBG), **and we invite you to join this regional initiative.**

The purpose of the EECBG Program is to help cities and counties implement projects and programs that will reduce fossil fuel emissions, reduce total energy use, and improve energy efficiency. Eligible projects might include lighting retrofits; heating, ventilation and air conditioning modifications; automated energy systems; and water/wastewater retrofits. The draft guidelines for this funding program can be found at <http://www.energy.ca.gov/recovery/blockgrant.html>.

The California Energy Commission is strongly encouraging regional proposals and collaborative partnerships as opposed to individual proposals, and the North Coast Integrated Regional Water Management Plan (IRWMP) leadership has offered to provide a regional application framework to support the eligible entities in the North Coast.

Following is a list of reasons why you may wish to participate in this regional application:

- No cost or resource allocation to the eligible city or county – the North Coast IRWMP staff will develop the application and manage the contract at no cost to you
- The California Energy Commission has a strong preference for regional applications
- One grant contract administrator for the region provides contract management efficiencies, one point of contact ensuring close communication, and streamlined reporting processes,
- This initial regional application will ensure that our North Coast region – comprised of multiple small, economically disadvantaged communities and municipalities – is in a good position to access substantial future funds for energy independence and climate mitigation/adaptation. Federal and state agencies are increasingly interested in funding regional applications, as opposed to multiple applications from individual entities.
- The North Coast IRWMP has a track record and success in obtaining and implementing projects totaling more than \$25 million throughout the North Coast region
- A regional application through the North Coast IRWMP process promotes an open and transparent process
- The North Coast IRWMP has the ability to provide technical assistance support to small economically disadvantaged communities
- A regional approach enables participating entities to pool resources and share information

Please let us know if you would be interested in participating in this regional partnership by signing the North Coast IRWMP Letter of Intent. We will follow up with you in the next couple of days to discuss this opportunity further and answer any questions you may have. Please contact North Coast Integrated Regional Water Management Plan staff member Katherine Gledhill of West Coast Watershed kgledhill@westcoastwatershed.com, 707.795.1235 for more information about the program and opportunities to participate.