



# Wood Stove Changeouts

## Potential Funding Options



**Supplemental Environmental Projects (SEP).** Most federal actions against businesses or individuals for failure to comply with the environmental laws are resolved through settlement agreements. A SEP is a beneficial environmental project (e.g., provides funds for wood stove changeouts) which a defendant agrees to undertake as part of, or instead of, an enforcement action. Projects are submitted by private individuals and entities, as well as federal, state and local government agencies. In the June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2005 report, "Project Ideas for Supplemental Environmental Projects," the EPA discusses residential wood burning projects, and identifies wood stove replacement as a potential project to fund. While the SEP program can be a source of significant funding, certain restrictions apply. Go to <http://cfpub.epa.gov/compliance/resources/policies/civil/seps/>

**U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).** Their website, CodeTalk, is a federal, interagency, Native American Web site designed specifically to deliver relevant electronic information to Native American communities. There are at least three programs that may be of interest to Tribal Communities. They include: The Indian Housing Block Grant Program, The Rural Housing and Economic Development Program, and The Indian Community Development Block Grant Program. Most Tribes receive funds through the Indian Housing Block Grant Program which has **\$624 million** available in FY 2007. This may be the best potential source of funds to help changeout inefficient wood stoves to cleaner burning hearth appliances for those who are eligible, i.e., low income people (80% of the median income=low income). Go to [www.hud.gov/codetalk](http://www.hud.gov/codetalk)

**U.S Department of Agriculture (USDA).** The Home Improvement Loans and Grant Program enables low-income elderly (62+) homeowners to remove health and safety hazards from their homes. Changing out old, inefficient and/or improperly installed wood stoves would likely be eligible under this program. Loans are available to lower income rural (less than 10,000 population) to make repairs. Grants up to \$7500 are available to low-income, rural elderly homeowners to remove health and safety hazards from their homes. This also applies to Tribal Communities. Go to [www.rurdev.usda.gov/rhs](http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/rhs)

**Campaign for Energy Assistance.** The Low Income Homes Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) helps pay the winter heating bills of low-income and elderly people. Part of this program's funding is allocated toward residential weatherization or other energy-related home repair. Go to [www.liheap.org](http://www.liheap.org)

**Conservation Security Program.** The National Resources Conservation Service (CSP) is a voluntary program that provides financial and technical assistance to promote the conservation and improvement of soil, water, air, energy, plant and animal life, and other conservation purposes on Tribal and private working lands. Working lands include cropland, grassland, prairie land, improved pasture, and range land, as well as forested land that is an incidental part of an agriculture operation. The program is available in all 50 States, the Caribbean Area and the Pacific Basin area. Go to [www.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/csp](http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/csp)

**DOE Weatherization Assistance Program.** The Weatherization Assistance Program enables low-income families to permanently reduce their energy bills by making their homes more energy efficient. It is this country's longest running, and perhaps most successful energy efficiency program. During the last 27 years, the U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE) Weatherization Assistance Program has provided weatherization services to more than 5.3 million low-income families. This program is focused on maximizing efficiency. Go to <http://www.rebuild.org/index.asp>

**Renewable Energy Systems and Energy Efficiency Improvement Programs.** Section 9006 of the 2002 Farm Bill requires the USDA to create a program to make direct loans, loan guarantees, and grants to agricultural producers and rural small businesses to purchase renewable-energy systems and make energy-efficiency improvements. This program is known as the Renewable Energy Systems and Energy Efficiency Improvements Program. Grants range from \$2,500 to \$500,000 and may not exceed 25% of an eligible project's cost. Go to [http://www.dsireusa.org/library/includes/incentive2.cfm?Incentive\\_Code=US05F&State=Federal&current\\_pageid=1](http://www.dsireusa.org/library/includes/incentive2.cfm?Incentive_Code=US05F&State=Federal&current_pageid=1)

**DOE's Rebuild America.** Rebuild America is a growing network of community-driven voluntary partnerships that foster energy efficiency and renewable energy in commercial, government and public-housing buildings. At the federal level, it is the largest, most established technology deployment program within DOE's Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (EERE). The program's goals are to: conserve energy, accelerate use of the best energy technologies, save money, reduce air pollution, lower U.S. reliance on energy imports, help revitalize aging city and town neighborhoods, and create "smart energy" jobs. Go to <http://www.rebuild.org/index.asp>

**International Finance Corporation.** IFC's Environmental Finance Group considers both commercially viable projects and higher-risk ventures in a wide range of environmental sectors. This corporation is available for financing assistance only, not to provide funding. Go to <http://www.ifc.org/ifcext/enviro.nsf/Content/EnvironmentalFinance>

**The Energy Foundation.** As part of the Foundation Center, the mission of the Energy Foundation is "to assist in the nation's transition to a sustainable energy future by promoting energy efficiency and renewable energy." A problem with this funding is that the program does not support the purchase of equipment, even if the intent is to save energy. Go to [http://fdncenter.org/funders/grantmaker/gws\\_priv/indiv/energy.html](http://fdncenter.org/funders/grantmaker/gws_priv/indiv/energy.html)

**The Pew Charitable Trusts.** The Pew Charitable Trusts serves the public interest by providing information, advancing policy solutions and supporting civic life. The environmental work of the Trusts employs science, law, public education and advocacy, aimed at halting and ultimately reversing the trends that are threatening nature. The Trusts invested \$204 million in fiscal year 2006 to provide organizations and citizens with fact-based research and practical solutions for challenging issues. This is a very broad program, with environmental issues being only a small part of their focus. Go to <http://www.rebuild.org/index.asp>

**Feedback/Questions.** If you have additional ideas on funding sources or clarifying questions please feel free to contact EPA's Larry Brockman, [brockman.larry@epa.gov](mailto:brockman.larry@epa.gov), 919-541-5398.