



Committed to the future of rural communities.

Florida-Rural Business & Cooperative Service

Alternative Energy

Small Business Gains Competitive Edge, Retains Employees with Rural Energy for America Grant

Outline Of Need:

To gain and maintain a competitive edge and to retain employees, NanoSonic Products Inc. needed to reduce energy costs associated with the business.

How Rural Development Helped:

USDA Rural Development worked with the small rural business to provide a \$44,625 Rural Energy for America Program (REAP) grant toward the purchase and installation of a solar photovoltaic system.

The Results:

With the installation of the renewable energy system, NanoSonic now produces 149 percent of its energy needs and sells surplus energy back to the City of Alachua, its electric provider. This allows

Fast Facts

Program: Rural Energy for America Program (REAP) grant

Investment: \$44,625

Partners: City of Alachua Municipal Electric Utilities and U.S. Treasury 1603 Grant

Demographics: City of Alachua, pop. 6,098

Impact: Six jobs saved, one job created, and first interconnection agreement for community.



Florida State Director Richard Macheck addressed local business owners and elected officials at the NanoSonic Products headquarters location highlighting Rural Development's energy programs.

the company to remain competitive, operate carbon free and focus spending on new technology development and employee retention.

The Rural Energy for America Program (REAP) provides assistance to agricultural producers and rural small businesses to complete a variety of projects. Offering both loan guarantees and grants, the REAP program helps eligible applicants install renewable energy systems such as solar panels or anaerobic digesters, make energy efficiency improvements such as installing irrigation pumps or replacing ventilation systems, and conduct energy audits and feasibility studies.

USDA Rural Development is committed to the future of rural communities and provides financing and technical assistance to foster growth in homeownership, business development, and critical community and technology infrastructure.

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