



NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture • Rural Development
One Credit Union Place, Suite 330, Harrisburg, PA 17110

Phone: (717) 237-2299, Fax: (717) 237-2191, TTY/TDD & Voice: 711; TTY/TDD only: 1-800-654-5984, Web: <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/pa>

Contact: Dawn Knepp (USDA)
717-237-2286

ENERGEX AMERICAN, INC. RECEIVES \$476,685 FOR RENEWABLE ENERGY AND ENERGY EFFICIENCY GRANTS

Mifflintown, PA October 7, 2009 – A USDA Rural Development ceremonial check presentation and facility tour were held on Wednesday, October 7, 2009 at 2:30 p.m. at Energex American, Inc. announcing a \$476,685 grant for the business located in Mifflintown, PA. Last week, Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack announced that the department is providing \$62.5 million in loans and grants for 705 renewable energy and energy efficiency projects in 45 states and Puerto Rico under the Rural Energy for America Program (REAP), an important initiative to help rebuild and revitalize rural America.

“President Obama and I are committed to helping rural businesses become more energy efficient – it’s good for the economy, good for the environment, and good for the workers and customers who depend on the goods and services these businesses provide,” Vilsack said. “While the REAP grants will continue to provide an important jump start to a clean, renewable energy future, Congress must act to pass comprehensive energy and climate legislation to create the green jobs our economy needs and get our nation on the path to being truly energy independent.” Renewable energy funding from USDA has helped many rural businesses.

Energex will utilize the USDA Rural Development funds to install a woody biomass fueled industrial dryer, replacing a dryer that utilizes 150,000 gallons of propane per year, and will result in reductions in propane usage of 97.8%

Energex has been in the community for more than nine years. In 2000, Energex merged a West Virginia pellet plant with another here in Mifflintown and created Energex American, Inc., now the premier supplier of pellets in the mid-Atlantic region.

“Renewable energy is essential to the quality of life in any rural community,” said Tom Williams, Pennsylvania State Director. “And, the grant for the Energex helps to demonstrate Rural Development’s commitment to the future of rural communities such as Mifflintown,” added Williams.

REAP loan guarantees and grants can be used for renewable energy systems, energy efficiency improvements, feasibility studies and energy audits. More information on the REAP program, which was authorized under the 2008 Farm Bill, is at: www.rurdev.usda.gov/rbs/farmbill/index.html.

Committed to the future of rural communities.

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USDA Rural Development's mission is to increase economic opportunity and improve the quality of life for rural residents. Rural Development fosters growth in homeownership, finances business development and supports the creation of critical community and technology infrastructure. Further information on rural programs is available at a local USDA Rural Development office or by visiting www.rurdev.usda.gov.

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