



### Upcoming Events

March 30, 2010

Construction Site Inspector Training Workshop. [Register/more information: Here](#)

April 2, 2010

Competent Person Workshop. [Register/more information: Here](#)

April 5 – 9 , 2010

Gas Bootcamp Operator Qualification Workshop. [Register/more information: Here](#)

April 6, 2010

Rain Garden Workshop, Bettendorf. [Register/more information: Here](#)

April 7 – 8, 2010

“Municipal Utilities 2030” Meeting, Courtyard by Marriott, Ankeny. [Register/more information: Here](#)

April 14 –15, 21 –22 , 29 –30, 2010

Consumer Confidence Report Workshops (various locations). [Register/more information: Here](#)  
*Note: Coralville location is full*

April 15, 2010

Gas Fire Control Workshop. [Register/more information: Here](#)

April 21, 2010

Salt & Deicing Workshop. [Register/more information: Here](#)

April 27, 2010

Rain Garden Workshop. [Register/more information: Here](#)



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## National Broadband Plan summarized, off to Congress

◆ The Federal Communications Commission’s (FCC) National Broadband Plan has been sent to Congress and the FCC has released an executive summary of the plan.

The National Broadband Plan was required under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act.. The plan’s goals for the next decade include every American having "affordable access to robust broadband service," and every American being able "to use broadband to track and manage their real-time energy consumption," the FCC stated.



The plan includes recommendations to: modernize the grid with broadband; "unleash energy innovation in homes and buildings by making energy data readily available to consumers;" and improve the energy efficiency and environmental impact of the information communications technology sector.



A series of recommendations in the plan deal with policies to promote competition. These include: collecting, analyzing, benchmarking and publishing detailed, market-by-market information on broadband pricing and competition; developing disclosure requirements for broadband providers; and undertaking a comprehensive review of wholesale competition rules. In a section on ensuring efficient allocation and use of government-owned assets, the plan recommends establishing low and more uniform rental rates for access to poles, and improving rights-of-way management "for cost and time savings."

The plan’s executive summary can be found [here](#). The 300+-page plan submitted to Congress can be found [here](#).

Analysts are calling the submittal of the plan a starting point for much discussion and debate still to come. The American Public Power Association (APPA) is currently reviewing the National Broadband Plan and will provide a detailed analysis at a future date.

## Culver-chaired group releases wind recommendations



◆ Governor Chet Culver recently participated in a teleconference to release national recommendations for promoting wind energy. Governor Culver and Rhode Island Governor Donald L. Carcieri released “Great Expectations: The Governors’ Wind Energy Coalition’s 2010 Recommendations.” Governor Culver is the chair of the Governors’ Wind Energy Coalition, and Governor Carcieri is the vice chair.

The recommendations encompass a broad range of wind energy policy initiatives that address the governors’ top priorities: green economic development, job creation, and energy security. The bipartisan group is composed of 30 governors from across the nation who share common concerns.



The report represents the first set of comprehensive wind energy recommendations ever submitted to Congress by a group of the nation’s governors. The recommendations call for the following actions by both Congress and the Obama Administration: Adopt a renewable electricity standard; develop new interstate electric transmission system infrastructure as needed to provide access to premier renewable energy resources both on-shore and offshore; fully support coastal, deep water, and offshore wind energy technology and transmission research and development; streamline permitting processes for both offshore and on-shore wind energy development projects; expand the U.S. Department of Energy’s work with the states and the wind industry to accelerate innovation; extend the Treasury Department Grant Program in lieu of the Investment Tax Credit; and adopt a long-term renewable energy production tax credit with provisions to broaden the pool of eligible investors.

“Great Expectations: The Governors’ Wind Energy Coalition’s 2010 Recommendations” and the home page of the group’s web site is available [here](#).

### Noted speakers fill agenda for Municipal Utilities 2030



◆ Some of the most respected individuals in various energy, engineering, legal, green technology and other

fields will make up the speaker lineup for IAMU's Municipal Utilities 2030 event April 7&8. There is still time to register for the event, and registrations will be accepted until the conference begins.

**Robert Remick**, Director of the Hydrogen Technologies and System Center at the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (speaking on fuel cell development); **William Shefchik**, Burns & McDonnell (carbon sequestration); **Gene Takle**, Professor of Atmospheric Science and Agricultural Meteorology, Iowa State University (climate change); **Jim Baller**, Baller & Herbst Law Group (future of telecom); and **Curt Klaassen**, Director, Manager, Iowa Energy Center Energy Resource Station (lighting the future) are just a few of the noted presenters who will take part.

View a full agenda and register for Municipal Utilities 2030 from the IAMU web site home page, [www.iamu.org](http://www.iamu.org).



**These General Electric LED lights (area light, left; street light, right) from IAMU associate member Cahoon Sales were on display recently at IAMU. Learn more at [www.cahoonsales.com](http://www.cahoonsales.com) or see their display at IAMU's Municipal Utilities 2030.**

## OEI awards 78 EECB grants in Iowa; total \$5 million+

◆ The Iowa Office of Energy Independence (OEI) has awarded 78 statewide grants totaling \$5,840,862 under the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) and American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) program.



The awards are for projects from cities and counties across the state that will reduce energy use, have a positive impact on budgets and enhance the economic development through job creation. To review a list of awards, go to [www.energy.iowa.gov](http://www.energy.iowa.gov).

The purpose of the Iowa EECBG program is to provide funding, via a competitive grant process, to assist local governments in creating and implementing strategies to:

- Reduce fossil fuel emissions in a manner that is environmentally sustainable and, to the maximum extent practicable, and maximize benefits for local and regional communities.
- Reduce total energy use of the eligible entities.
- Improve energy efficiency in the building, transportation and other appropriate sectors.
- Create and retain jobs.



Up to \$8,634,400 of ARRA-EECBG funding is available for grants under this program and project awards were distributed among six categories:

1. Energy efficiency retrofits on facilities for nonprofit organizations and governmental agencies.
2. Development and implementation of energy efficiency and conservation programs for buildings and facilities within the jurisdiction of an entity.
3. Development and implementation of programs to conserve energy used in transportation.
4. Development and implementation of building codes and inspection services, compliance, training and enforcement associated with such codes in order to promote building energy efficiency.
5. Replacement of traffic signals and street lighting with energy efficient technologies.
6. Development, implementation, and installation on or in any government building of onsite renewable energy technology that generates electricity from renewable resources.



Iowa's 13 largest cities – Ames, Ankeny, Cedar Falls, Cedar Rapids, Council Bluffs, Davenport, Des Moines, Dubuque, Iowa City, Sioux City, Urbandale, Waterloo, and West Des Moines – and ten largest counties – Cerro Gordo, Clinton, Dallas, Des Moines, Johnson, Linn, Muscatine, Polk, Scott, and Warren – that have already received direct formula allocations from the U.S. Department of Energy were eligible to compete for approximately \$2.9 million in funding. These awards will be announced by the OEI soon.

## Free webinars a new benefit of APPA DEED program

◆ In celebration of the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of American Public Power Association (APPA) research and grant program, Demonstration of Energy-Efficient Development (DEED), webinars will be added as a member benefit.



DEED will host free, periodic webinars where APPA members can hear first-hand about projects funded through the program. The first webinar which will be held April 6 from 1-2 p.m. CDT and will focus on two recently completed solar projects: one involving the Sacramento (CA) Municipal Utility District and the other dealing with a program at Columbia (MO) Water & Light. More information and registration is available [here](#).



DEED has invested in the future technologies and best practices of the electric industry, providing more than \$7 million to support more than 400 innovative utility projects. These projects cover a wide array of topics including: energy efficiency, environmental, safety, transmission & distribution, governance, and more.

The IAMU *Informer* is an electronic publication of the Iowa Association of Municipal Utilities.  
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