



Iron County received energy grant

March 29, 2010

CEDAR CITY — On August 21, 2009, Iron County was awarded \$184,700 in direct formula grant funds through the Department of Energy's Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) Program. The funds were awarded to conduct an energy audit and retrofit of the courthouse in Parowan.

Stimulus funds for the direct formula grant are appropriated through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. The purpose of the program is to assist eligible entities in creating and implementing strategies to reduce fossil fuel emissions, reduce total energy use and improve energy efficiency in the building, transportation and other appropriate sectors, while creating and retaining jobs.

There are multiple objectives of the Iron County Courthouse Energy Efficiency Retrofit Program. The program's main focus is to significantly reduce energy costs and harmful emissions by replacing outdated mechanical systems associated with the heating and ventilation system of the courthouse, and maintain records of future cost savings and emission reductions. The program's secondary focus is to create energy awareness with county staff, the public and the local media, and of the importance of energy reduction, while promoting an energy efficient office environment.

Utilizing EECBG funding, Iron County contracted with Honeywell Building Solutions to conduct an energy audit of the courthouse. The energy audit provided detailed energy improvements and

operational changes recommended for the project. The project is being managed through the Iron County Administrator's office and is currently underway. It is expected to be completed by June 1. The county will also prepare a baseline data report of current energy use in which future cost efficiency, savings and emission reductions comparisons can be made as a result of the energy retrofit. The county was not required through the grant application to leverage any additional funds to obtain this grant and is managing the project with existing staff.

In addition to the formula grant funds the county obtained for this project through the Department of Energy, the State of Utah has additional funds through the EECBG Program that may become available in the near future should the County choose to apply. The use of EECBG funds through the state would be for additional energy retrofits, such as the retrofitting of lighting and continued upgrades of the existing mechanical systems in order to achieve the maximum energy cost savings possible.

Should you wish additional information regarding this project and the direct formula grant funds being used to complete it, please contact the Iron County Administrator's Office at 865-5380.

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