



MAY 21, 2014

NEWS

LPEA Free Information Series continues with USDA Grant Workshop *Dollars available for businesses/ag producers for energy efficiency/renewable systems*

DURANGO, Colo. – La Plata Electric Association (LPEA) will host a special energy efficiency and renewable energy systems grant education workshop featuring U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Rural Development representative Pattie Snidow, community and economic development director, Tuesday, June 10, 2014, 12:30-4:30 p.m.

The workshop, held in support of the USDA's Rural Energy for America Program (REAP), will be held in the multi-purpose room at LPEA's Bodo Park headquarters (45 Stewart Street), Durango. It is free and open to all small businesses or agriculture producers interested in investing in energy efficiency upgrades or renewable systems and seeking additional funding.

"For the 2014 funding cycle, the USDA's application submission deadline is July 7, 2014 and we want to make sure our local businesses are informed about how to apply for a grant," said Sue Maxwell, LPEA project specialist. "LPEA was a successful recipient of a \$100,000 USDA grant for energy audit review and education in 2011. We encourage local small businesses, and that includes our regional farmers and ranchers, to look into this opportunity, and LPEA wants to help however we can."

The USDA grants, which can be up to 25 percent of a project's costs, are designed to encourage implementation of commercially available energy efficiencies or renewable energy products on a commercial building or energy efficiency improvements to manufacturing process or equipment such as coolers, refrigerators, etc.

Eligible applicants under USDA guidelines are those considered small businesses by the Small Business Administration or agriculture producers. Businesses within city limits must be located in populations under 50,000 as of the 2000 census. This grant program is available to private sector applicants only. Non-profit organizations and local governments are not eligible.

“But we do want to encourage energy efficiency and renewable energy contractors to come to the workshop as they may also find this training valuable, as they play a key role in the success of the application for a small business or agriculture producer,” added Maxwell.

Reservations for the USDA Grant Information Workshop are required. For further information about the workshop and to RSVP, contact Sue Maxwell at 970.382.7170 or smaxwell@lpea.coop.

LPEA, celebrating 75 years in 2014, provides to its more than 30,000 members, with nearly 41,000 meters, safe, reliable electricity at the lowest reasonable cost, while being environmentally responsible. For additional information, contact LPEA at 970.247.5786 or visit www.lpea.coop.

#

LPEA is an equal opportunity provider and employer M/F/Disability/Veteran. If you wish to file a Civil Rights program complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Discrimination Complaint Form, found online at http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html, or at any USDA office, or call [\(866\) 632-9992](tel:(866)632-9992) to request the form. You may also write a letter containing all of the information requested in the form. Send your completed complaint form or letter to us by mail at U.S. Department of Agriculture, Director, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, by fax [\(202\) 690-7442](tel:(202)690-7442) or email at program.intake@usda.gov.