

Ladies and Gentlemen:

On June 10, 2009, the officials of the South Carolina Energy Office announced their solicitation of grant proposals from units of local government who will not receive a direct formula grant from the US Department of Energy. Under this program, the total funds available in the Santee-Lynches Region are \$615,491.

These funds may be requested for a variety of costs outlined in the attached **draft** solicitation package. You will want to go to .energy.sc.gov and review that website for an updated application package that can be found under "Latest News" 6/4/09 in the bottom left hand corner. There you will find an updated version of the application as well as instructions for completing the package.

I plan to hold a technical assistance workshop on **Thursday, June 18th beginning at 10:00 a.m. until 12:00 p.m.** This will be held at the COG office at 36 West Liberty Street in Sumter. This workshop is not mandatory but I strongly recommend that you or your designee who will be preparing the grant proposal plan to attend, as there are a number of important technical points that you will need to consider and incorporate in your proposal prior to submission.

The Council of Governments will provide a rating and ranking review of your proposals. Our rating and ranking findings will be forwarded to the South Carolina Energy Office along with your individual application packages. The South Carolina Energy Office will utilize the South Carolina Research Authority to provide a technical review for accuracy before the state will make their grant award announcements.

Details for this solicitation will be provided during the technical assistance workshop and any questions that may arise that cannot be answered at that time will be discussed with the State Energy Office and answers will be provided electronically to participating units of local government.

In order to properly prepare for the TA workshop, it will be important to know who from your locality will be attending. Please confirm the attendee information via return email by Tuesday, June 16th so that documentation material will be available.

If you have any questions, please give me a call - 803.775.7381.

Jim Darby, Executive Director
Santee-Lynches RCOG