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Governor Jan Brewer Announces State Receipt of \$715,000 Building Energy Efficiency Grant

Funding Will Improve Energy Efficiency of 50 Wastewater, Water Treatment Facilities

PHOENIX – Governor Jan Brewer today announced the State of Arizona has been awarded a \$715,000 grant to advance energy efficiency in its public facilities. The funding, provided to the Governor's Office of Energy Policy (GOEP), is part of the U.S. Department of Energy's State Energy Program (SEP).

Arizona is one of 22 states to receive funding from the \$14 million competitive grant program. The 3-year grant was awarded on a collaborative basis as the GOEP worked with nine agencies and organizations to obtain funding.

"I would like to thank the Office of Energy Policy for working so diligently and passionately to secure this significant grant," said Governor Brewer. "Because of staff members' expertise and cutting-edge proposal, approximately half of our State's water treatment facilities will begin to see increased energy efficiency at decreased costs."

The State Energy Program Competitive awards states whose submitted proposals increase energy savings goals, finance energy efficiency upgrades and improve policy and planning of public. With this building energy efficiency grant, the State of Arizona will work with partners on a statewide basis to implement deep, whole facility upgrades to improve the energy efficiency of 50 wastewater and drinking water systems.

Partners include the U.S. Department of Agriculture; Arizona Department of Environmental Quality; Water Infrastructure Authority of Arizona; Arizona Corporation Commission; Arizona Water Users Association; Arizona Public Service, Lincus, Inc.; Comverge (a Georgia-based energy management firm); and Rural Community Assistance Corporation (a California-based non-profit organization).

"Working with a variety of organizations will bring a wealth of expertise to Arizona energy projects," said Leisa Brug, Director of the Governor's Office of Energy Policy. "Historically, these types of facilities have had very little attention regarding energy-saving potential. We plan to change that by working with our partners to implement proven energy-efficiency and renewable energy applications that will reduce overall operating costs."

According to the Energy Star website, the nation's wastewater plants and drinking water systems spend about \$4 billion per year on energy to treat water. Individually, these operating costs can add up to one-third of a municipality's total energy bill.

In addition, funding may be leveraged with private financial support, which could increase overall project funding to more than \$1 million for Arizona.

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