



Committed to the future of rural communities.

United States Department of Agriculture
Rural Development

Montana Energy Stakeholder Meeting

- WHO:** Energy stakeholders, including state energy partners, businesses that have used or may be looking use our energy programs; lenders; local, state, and federal elected officials and government offices; grant writers
- WHAT:** USDA Rural Development will host stakeholder meeting. There is no charge to attend.
- WHEN:** February 28, 2012 from 10:00 – 11:30 immediately preceding the MEDA Annual Meeting.
- WHERE:** Executive/Legislative Room in the Red Lion Colonial Hotel, Helena, MT [Please Register!](#)
- WHY:** Over the past three plus years, USDA Rural Development has built a reliable, successful energy program and is looking to continue its success moving forward. The energy programs are making significant impacts on communities and the business owners and farms benefitting from this assistance are decreasing their energy footprint, converting renewable resources into cleaner energy, and creating and saving jobs. As budget cuts continue to effect most Rural Development programs and as we approach Farm Bill season, we are calling together stakeholders to provide updates on the RD energy program; to discuss ways we can stretch our dollars, including working with private and public investing partners and focusing more on the guaranteed loan; and to re-emphasize our commitment to helping meet the administration's energy independence goals.

AGENDA

- 10:00 – 10:10 Welcome and Introductions, Matthew Jones, State Director
- 10:10 – 10:20 Overview of USDA Energy Matrix and Map, John Guthmiller, Program Director
- 10:20 – 10:35 Update on REAP Program, John Guthmiller, Program Director
- a. Overview of REAP
 - b. National and State Performance Numbers
 - a. Past application requests vs. State allocations
 - b. Opportunities to leverage USDA funds in energy loans
- 10:35 – 10:50 Success stories
- 10:50 – 11:25 Questions and Discussion, Matthew Jones, State Director
- 11:25 – 11:30 Wrap up