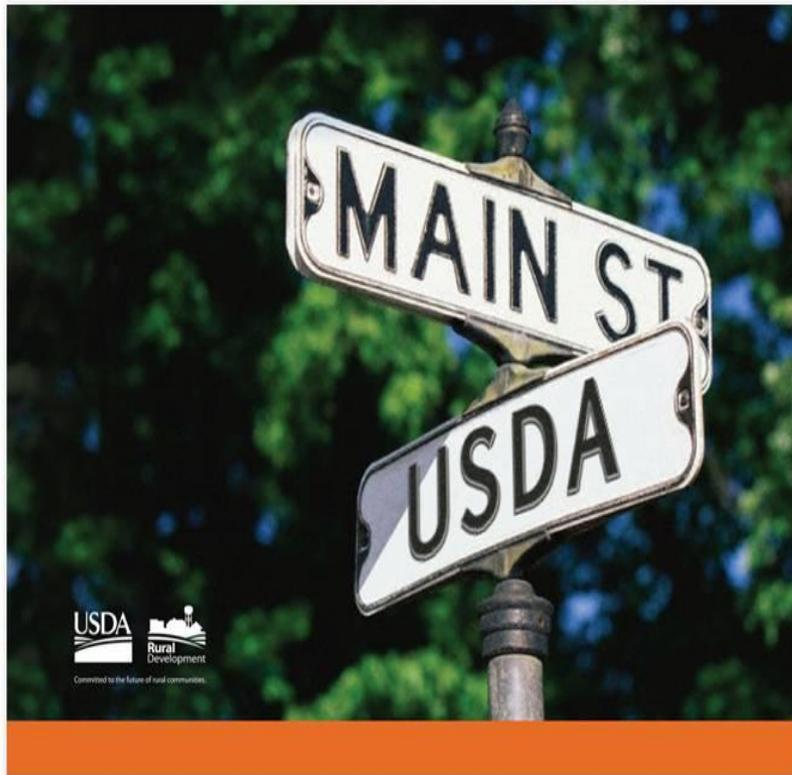


# USDA

## Rural Development



Nebraska Wind Power Conference  
November 15, 2011  
Kearney, NE

**BACKING  
THE  
BUSINESS  
OF  
RURAL  
AMERICA**



# Rural Energy for America Program Financing

**Bluestem, LLC- Springview, NE**

**\$500,000 Grant & \$1,159,811 Loan Guarantee**



# Rural Energy For America Program

- Designed to assist *farmers, ranchers* and *rural small businesses* with energy projects

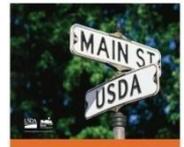


Bluestem, LLC: Small Business-Energy Generation

# Rural Energy For America Program

---

- Feasibility Study Grant Funding for Commercial Systems
- **Installation** of Commercially Available Equipment
  - Grants
  - Loan Guarantees
- Energy Audit & Renewable Energy Development Assistance Grants



# Rural Energy For America Program

## Project Eligibility

- Renewable Energy – Energy derived from:
  - Wind
  - Solar
  - Renewable biomass (includes anaerobic digestion)
  - Ocean (including tidal, wave, current & thermal)
  - Geothermal
  - Hydroelectric source
  - Hydrogen derived from renewable biomass or water using one of the above energy sources
  - Hydropower

*\*Feasibility study required when TPC exceeds \$200,000*

# REAP System Installation Grants

Grant Request	<b>Up to 25% of eligible project costs</b> <b>Annual funding cycle</b> <b>Small state allocation/Remainder compete nationally</b> <b>*Set-aside for Grants of \$20,000 or less</b>
Grant Amounts	
•Energy Efficiency	<b>Minimum: \$1,500 Maximum: \$250,000</b>
•Renewable Energy	<b>Minimum: \$2,500 Maximum: \$500,000</b>
Grant Uses	<b>Purchase and installation of renewable energy systems or improvements in energy efficiency</b>
Applicant Types	<b>Ag Producers and Rural Small Businesses</b>
Community size	<b>Population up to 50,000</b>

# REAP System Installation

## Loan Guarantees

<b>% of Loan Guaranteed</b>	<b>Up to an 85% guarantee-pending size of loan. Guaranteed loan up to 75% of total eligible project costs</b>
<b>Loan Amounts</b>	<b>Minimum: \$5,000 Maximum: \$25 Million</b>
<b>Loan Terms</b>	<b>Real Estate – 30 yrs Machinery &amp; Equipment – 20 yrs Term Working Capital – 7 yrs</b>
<b>Fees</b>	<b>One-time guarantee fee of 1%. Annual renewal fee of 0.25% on outstanding balance</b>
<b>Loan Uses</b>	<b>Purchase and installation of renewable energy systems or improvements in energy efficiency</b>
<b>Borrower Types</b>	<b>Ag Producers and Rural Small Businesses</b>
<b>Community size</b>	<b>Population up to 50,000</b>

# Grant/Loan Application Process

Pre-application correspondence

Application: *Filed 6/30/2010*

- Eligible, complete, & environmental review
- File submitted to National Office

Award & Procurement

- Obligation: Reserve funds for project
- Procurement: Contract Approval

Close out: *10/21/ 2011*

- Document TPC/Invoices
- Close Loan/Grant

Reporting

- 3 Yrs Actual wind data required



# Bluestem Project Takeaways

- **Work with your local RD office**
- **Scoring is important...MAXIMIZE & *understand* program/competition/deadlines.....**
- **Submit prior to deadlines for review....  
submit complete applications....**
- **Environmental review process...**
- **Ask Questions!!!**



# Rural Development

## Area Offices

### Scottsbluff Area Office

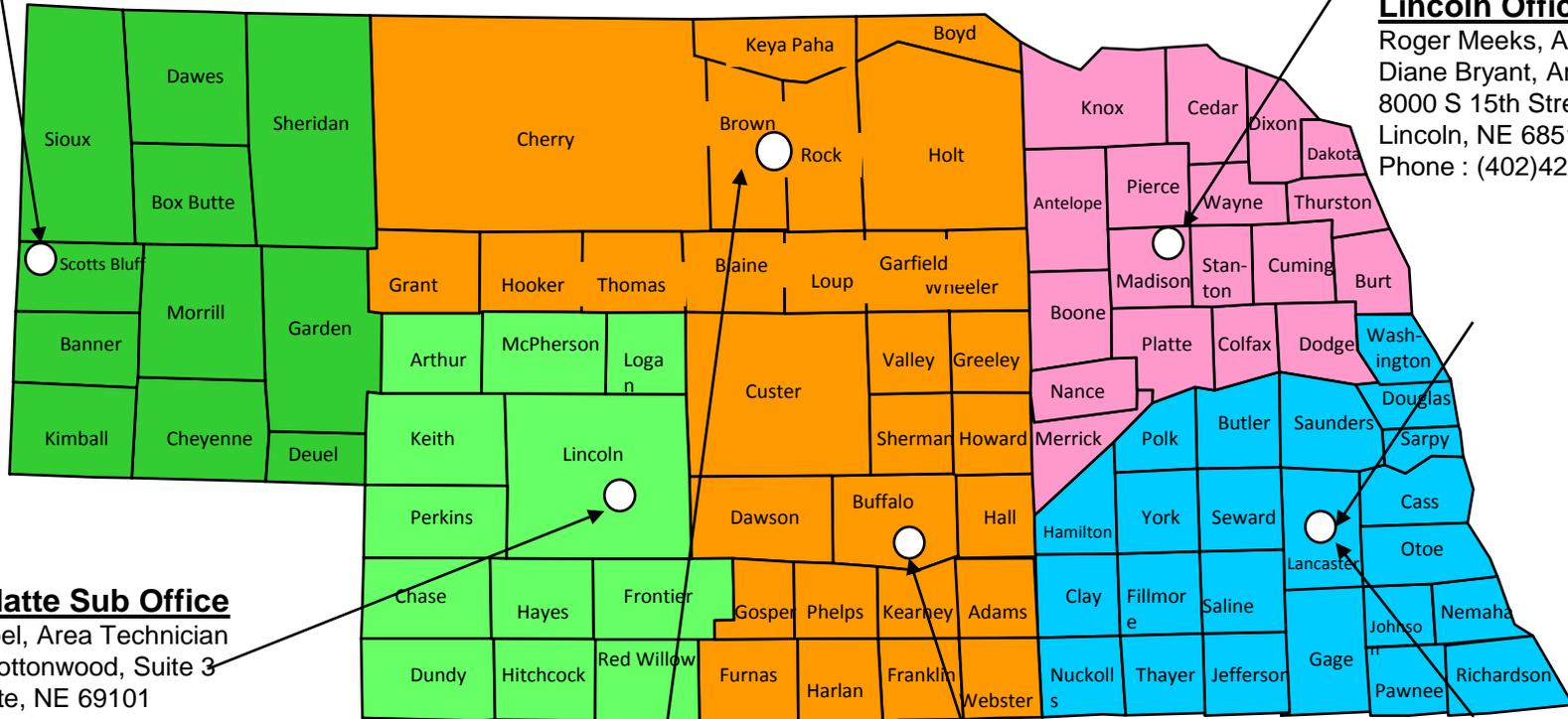
Brenda Darnell, Area Director  
 Marla Marx, Area Specialist  
 818 Ferdinand Plaza, St. B  
 Scottsbluff, NE 69361-4401  
 Phone : (308)632-2195

### Norfolk Area Office

Dale Wemhoff, Area Director  
 Korey Young, Area Specialist  
 1909 Vicki Lane, Suite 103  
 Norfolk, NE 68701  
 Phone : (402)371-5350

### Lincoln Office

Roger Meeks, Area Director  
 Diane Bryant, Area Specialist  
 8000 S 15th Street, St. E  
 Lincoln, NE 68512-9436  
 Phone : (402)423-9683



### North Platte Sub Office

Lory Cappel, Area Technician  
 1202 S. Cottonwood, Suite 3  
 North Platte, NE 69101  
 Phone : (308)534-2360

### Ainsworth Area Sub Office

Danielle Palmer, Area Technician  
 731 E. 4th  
 Ainsworth, NE 69210  
 Phone : (402) 387-2242

### Kearney Area Office

Paul Bartlett, Area Director  
 Kelley Messenger, Area Specialist  
 4009 6th Ave, Suite 1  
 Kearney, NE 68845-2386  
 Phone : (308)237-3118

### State Office – Lincoln

Robin Templeton-BP Director  
 Deb Yocum, Energy Coordinator  
 Joan Scheel, BP Specialist  
 Deborah Drbal, BP Specialist  
 Room 152, Federal Building  
 100 Centennial Mall N.  
 Lincoln, NE 68508  
 Phone : (402)437-5551

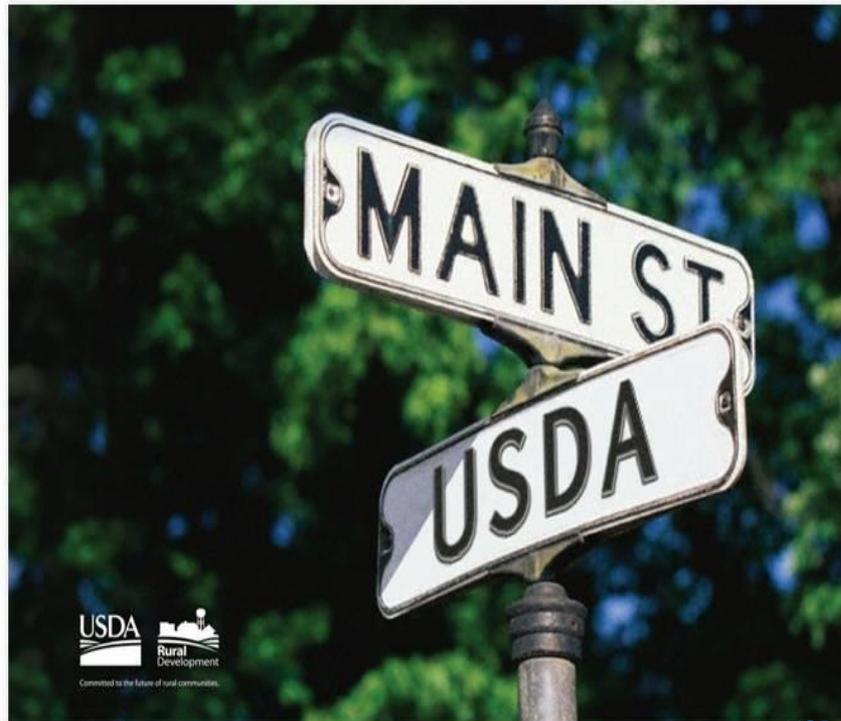


# USDA

## Rural Development

<http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/ne>

**BACKING  
THE  
BUSINESS  
OF  
RURAL  
AMERICA**



USDA Rural Development is an Equal Opportunity lender, Provider and Employer. Complaints of discrimination should be sent to USDA, Director, OCR, Washington, DC 20250-9410