



EESI
Environmental and
Energy Study Institute



ACCESS CLEAN ENERGY SAVINGS

Rural Energy Savings Program (RESP) Assistance

APPLICATIONS NOW OPEN FOR CO-OPS

Zero interest loans are available to rural co-ops through USDA's Rural Utilities Service (RUS). These loans give co-op members, via their cooperatives, the opportunity to implement energy efficiency measures or switch to renewable energy systems while also saving money on their monthly electric bills.

WHY NOW

On August 6, 2018 RUS opened a one-year application window for approximately \$100M in loan capital through RESP. The application process needs to be initiated before September 2019 in order for you to take advantage of this funding.

SIGN UP + SAVE

There is no upfront cost required to upgrade. Typically, the reduced monthly electric bill + the cost of the system financing is still less than what an individual member is paying monthly for their existing inefficient system.

- 1** Co-op works with EESI representatives to apply for and receive USDA's **zero interest RESP loan**
- 2** Co-op **works with members** to grant low-cost loans for individual projects
- 3** Replacement or new systems are **installed**
- 4** **Cost of installation is paid** through the member's electricity bill over time
- 5** **Zero interest on loans** for Co-op utilities + **monthly savings** for members

USING YOUR LOAN

Loans can be used for a variety of measures, providing the utility can justify the cost-effectiveness of the measures for the end-user. Eligible changes include:



Lighting



Permanently-installed energy storage devices



Building envelope upgrades



On- and off-grid renewable energy systems



Water & waste efficiency

“EESI provides invaluable resources to small rural utilities like ours. When you have to do this for the first time, EESI has a depth of knowledge to help make the project a success.”

TRAVIS NEAL

Head Accountant

Orcas Power & Light Cooperative (OPALCO)

HOW TO APPLY

The current application window is open through September 2019

EESI can assist in the facilitation of the application process. Please refer to the steps below:

STEP ONE



Submit a Letter Of Intent (LOI) that provides basic utility information and explains how the funds would be used to RUS.

STEP TWO



RUS reviews the LOIs on a first-come, first-serve basis.

STEP THREE



RUS then invites selected applicants to proceed with a full application.

STEP FOUR



Full application submitted with assistance available from EESI and past RESP recipients.