

**Iowa Department of Natural Resources  
Environmental Protection Commission**

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ITEM

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DECISION

**TOPIC      Contract - U.S. Dept. of Energy Rebuild America Grant – Community Energy Clean Sweep – Fort Dodge Project**

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The Department received a grant from the U.S. Department of Energy’s Rebuild America program in the amount of \$100,000. Pursuant to part of that grant, the Department intends to execute a Contract, in the amount of \$60,000, with The Energy Group Co. Inc. (TEG), which itself will provide for an additional \$72,000 worth of Cost Share to ensure the success of the Project. Rebuild America is a network of community-driven partnerships that foster energy efficiency and renewable energy in commercial, government and public housing buildings by helping building owners and managers learn about and use best technologies and financing for implementing energy management improvements.

This Contract is for TEG’s administration of an Action Plan directed toward initially obtaining \$450,000 worth of energy savings in targeted institutional, industrial, Main Street commercial, and residential buildings and facilities in Fort Dodge, Iowa. The Action Plan will provide for energy audits, financing and implementation of energy management improvements, media campaigns, organized volunteer activities, and contractor and building operator training workshops. Energy savings will be tracked and verified through TEG’s “On-Site Monitoring” software program. Execution of the Action Plan will feature coordinated partnerships among the City of Fort Dodge, MidAmerican Energy, Iowa Central Community College, TEG’s subcontractor ATEC Energy, Webster County Development, local schools, hospitals, business leaders, building owners and managers, and others.

The aim of the Department’s Rebuild America program for this project is the reduction of Fort Dodge’s “energy intensity”, which is a technical valuation of a community’s energy consumption in relation to a measure of the demand for services. In the Community Energy Clean Sweep Fort Dodge Project, this will be the energy consumption per square foot of the participating buildings.

Approximately \$72,000 in total Cost Share will be provided by TEG and as pledged by its two major local Project Partners, the City of Fort Dodge and MidAmerican Energy.

For this Contract and committed Cost Share:

<b>DNR Contract Value</b>	<b>Cost Share Providers</b>
<b>\$60,000</b>	<b>The Energy Group: \$20,000</b>
	<b>City of Fort Dodge: \$12,000</b>
	<b>MidAmerican Energy: \$40,000</b>
	<b>TOTAL COST SHARE: \$72,000</b>

The Department requests the Commission's approval to enter into a Contract with The Energy Group Co., Inc for the amount of \$60,000. A description of the Project and its funding is attached.

Wayne Gieselman  
Division Administrator  
Environmental Services Division

April 18, 2006

**US-DOE - Rebuild America Program Grant-Funded Project:**

**Community Energy Clean Sweep – Fort Dodge Project**

**—for consideration by Environmental Protection Commission, May 2006**

One of the Department’s goals is to help make happen as much as possible reduction in Iowa’s inefficient use of energy. Toward that goal, the Department applies for funds offered by the federal government for programs that facilitate energy efficiency. Accordingly, the Department received a grant from the US-DOE Rebuild America Program in the amount of \$100,000, and as part of the work for that grant, the Department intends to execute a Contract in the amount of \$60,000 with The Energy Group Co. Inc.(TEG) for its proposal to administer a Community Energy Clean Sweep Fort Dodge Project. The Department has had a successful history working with TEG, a company whose stated commitment is to “economic development through energy efficiency.

As a required demonstration of locally shared accountability, TEG and its Project Partners will contribute a total Cost Share worth some \$72,000.

Below is a list of applicants and their scores.

<b>Applicant</b>	<b>Reviewer 1</b>	<b>Reviewer 2</b>	<b>Reviewer 3</b>	<b>Average</b>
Cedar Valley Communities Clean Sweep	80	70	82	<b>77.33</b>
Project Energy Clean Sweep in Fort Dodge	71	80	84	<b>78.33</b>

The following provides a brief description of the Project and the funding amounts.

**CONTRACT RECOMMENDATION ABOVE \$25,000**

<b>The Energy Group Co. Inc.</b> 2704 Easton Blvd. Des Moines, Iowa 50317	<b>Contract Amount:</b>	<b>\$60,000</b>
	<b>Total Cost Share:</b>	<b>\$72,000</b>
	Cash Cost Share: \$ 0	
	In-Kind Cost Share: \$72,000	
<b>Total Contracted Project Cost:</b>		<b>\$132,000</b>

**Project Title:** Community Energy Clean Sweep – Fort Dodge Project

**Contact:** Kelly Needles Phone: (515) 564-1045 ext. 2

**Applicant:** The Energy Group Co., Inc.

**Description:** The U.S. Department of Energy’s Rebuild America Program is a network of community-driven voluntary partnerships that foster energy efficiency and renewable energy in commercial, government and public housing buildings. The Program’s goals

are to: conserve energy, accelerate use of the best energy technologies, save money, reduce air pollution, lower U.S. reliance on energy imports, help revitalize aging city and town neighborhoods, and create “smart energy” jobs. Rebuild America works to overcome barriers that impede both public and private building owners and managers from taking advantage of best technologies, financing mechanisms, savings potentials and other energy savings benefits. To break down those barriers, the Program spreads knowledge, develops projects to stimulate market change, provides analyses and advice in support of best technologies, and networks with state and local governments and the private sector. Over the years, Rebuild America has also offered grants to enable State Energy Offices, such as the Department’s Energy Section, to provide direct financial assistance to communities to carry out projects for accomplishing the Program’s objectives.

Work under this Contract, funded by a Rebuild America grant, is for the administration of such a Project. The Energy Group Co., Inc. (TEG) is an established firm that the Department has strong confidence can and will do the work proposed by the Community Energy Clean Sweep Fort Dodge Project. Primary provisions of the Project are:

- ❖ Starting a three to four year Action Plan intended to reduce participants’ utility bills by at least 30%. The first year of the Plan covered by this Contract will work toward achieving some \$450,000 worth of energy savings.
- ❖ Organizing a Community/Project Steering Committee to be TEG’s primary Action Plan information vehicle, helping integrate Action Plan input and feedback from five subcommittees: Retail Round Table, Institutional, Industrial, Commercial, and Residential.
- ❖ Relying on and strengthening public and private community partnerships that include the City of Fort Dodge, MidAmerican Energy, TEG’s subcontractor ATEC, Webster County Development, Iowa Central Community College, Fort Dodge Community School District, business leaders’ organizations such as Kiwanis and Rotary, financial institutions, media outlets, electrical contractors, builders, building owners and managers, and even local nonprofits such as parochial schools and churches.
- ❖ Focusing the Action Plan on ♦forming development connections with at least 25 key local companies, ♦having ATEC conduct over 250 energy audits, ♦establishing baseline data of participating buildings’ energy profiles, ♦obtaining special Project commitments from contractors, ♦developing pricing lists for equipment, ♦utilizing a variety of financing mechanisms for acquiring and installing energy management improvements (including “On-the-Bill” utility financing), ♦overseeing the implementation of energy management improvements worth at least \$1.8 million, ♦conducting workshops to train contractors and building operators how to best install and maintain energy management improvements, ♦ensuring that implemented energy projects realize expected savings through TEG’s On-Site Tracking and Monitoring program, and ♦developing measures for sustaining the Project beyond the funding support provided by the Department under this Contract.

TEG will also help organize volunteer activities to promote and help carry out community-wide features of the Action Plan, coordinate media campaigns to publicize Project progress, and draft case studies of Project successes.

**Target  
Area:**

The Fort Dodge vicinity, but then replicable state and nationwide.

