



## The Rebuild America September 1999 Flash Report

“Good News from America’s Cities and Towns”

Here is your latest edition of the Rebuild America Flash Report. This report is delivered via e-mail or fax to all Rebuild America program team members and the main contacts of all Rebuild America partnerships. The Flash Report is becoming a great resource for partnerships and others within Rebuild to keep up to date with all the events and happenings going on across the country.

Please share your news with us! There is always room for another story!

To comment on this report, or to submit information for the next Rebuild America Flash Report, please contact Alex Zartman at D&R International by phone: (301) 588-9387, fax: (301) 588-0854, or e-mail at [alexz@drintl.com](mailto:alexz@drintl.com).

Note: Be sure to include your name and contact information with any submissions. Information used in the Flash Report may be included in Rebuild America weekly reports to the US Department of Energy.

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### New Partnerships:

Nevada Air National Guard, Reno, NV (Rebuild America’s 240th partnership)  
Gem County Community Partnership, Emmett, ID

### Higher Education

Southern Illinois University has signed on with Southern Sustainability, a Rebuild America Partnership in Illinois. The University is planning to make Rebuild America a part of its mechanical engineering curriculum, with students performing energy audits of other Partners’ buildings. The University is now planning on performing retrofits to its own buildings, including some student housing. The plan is still in its preliminary phase but for more information please contact Geri Perrotte at (312) 886-8597 or e-mail at [geri.perrotte@hq.doe.gov](mailto:geri.perrotte@hq.doe.gov).

### Building a Stronger, Greener Community

The City of Greensboro, North Carolina identifies itself with an oak tree - wisdom, strength, and durability, as seen in their city's logo and seal. This identity is exemplified through **Rebuild Greensboro's** plan for the future. The partnership has developed a five-year capital improvement plan to renovate all city municipal buildings, which will result in retrofitting over 2.2 million square feet, and energy savings of \$7 million annually. The partnership is also working with many local resources, such as the North Carolina Solar Center, North Carolina A&T State University's Engineering School, and Duke Power to assist in promoting green building technology and renewable energy concepts. The City's

pilot project will be the Melvin Municipal Office Building that is slated for a comprehensive energy upgrade to begin in October 1999. In conjunction with the Melvin Municipal Office Building project, Rebuild Greensboro will be developing an outreach campaign to educate city employees and the public on how these building improvements will benefit everyone by creating a stronger and more durable community. For more information contact, Charles Gullede at (336) 373-7966 or [chuck.gullede@ci.greensboro.nc.us](mailto:chuck.gullede@ci.greensboro.nc.us).

### **Financing & Performance Contracting Workshops**

Two Rebuild America workshops on municipal financing options will take place in October. Both workshops will cover the financing of energy efficiency projects, but the Connecticut workshop will emphasize performance contracting.

- October 5th 1999, Crowne Plaza, Warwick, Rhode Island (RI), sponsored by the RI Energy Office
- October 6th, 1999, United Illuminating Electric Service Work Center, Shelton, Connecticut., co-sponsored by the CT Office of Policy and Management and United Illuminating

Contact John Ruckes at (860) 418-6384 to get more information for the Connecticut Workshop and Pat Condon at (401) 222-6920 for information about the Rhode Island Workshop.

### **Building Commissioning**

A "Building Commissioning: How to Achieve Peak Performance in Your Buildings" seminar, co-sponsored by **Rebuild Connecticut** and the University of Massachusetts will take place at the Sturbridge Host Hotel & Conference Center in Sturbridge, MA on October 22, 1999.

Building commissioning is a systematic approach used in both new and renovated buildings to ensure that every aspect of the building is properly integrated to provide peak performance. By verifying proper installation, functioning, operation and maintenance of equipment, the commissioning process guarantees that over time, efficiency measures continue to deliver the expected savings. Contact John Ruckes at (860) 418-6384 or Dragan Curcija at (413) 545-4454 for registration information.

### **\$230,000 Funds Renewable Projects On Tribal Lands**

The Department of Energy (DOE) is funding five renewable energy projects worth almost \$230,000 to help buy renewable energy systems for schools, medical centers and other facilities in Native American communities. In addition, the DOE is awarding two grants totaling \$50,000 to two tribal colleges for building energy-efficiency research. "In keeping with the long history of 'Native Americans' respect for the natural environment, these renewable energy systems and research grants for energy-efficient buildings will provide financial assistance to Native American communities and educational institutions," said Energy Secretary Bill Richardson. In all cases, Native Americans will be trained to operate and maintain the systems. In Anchorage, Alaska, the Indian Health Services and the Alaska Native Medical Center will receive \$45,000 for a groundwater cooling system. In Riverside, California, the Bureau of Indian Affairs and the Sherman Indian School will receive \$50,000 to install a 30 kilowatt photovoltaic array. In Supai, Arizona, the Bureau of Indian Affairs

and the Truxton Canyon Agency will receive \$61,300 to install three photovoltaic systems at federal facilities on the **Havasupai Indian Reservation**, a **Rebuild America** partnership. In Seba Dalkai, Arizona, the Bureau of Indian Affairs and Seba Dalkai School will receive \$50,000 for a photovoltaic system for a school to be completed in 2001. Also in Arizona, the Bureau of Indian Affairs and the Fort Apache Agency will receive \$23,500 to install five new wind turbines on the Fort Apache Indian Reservation to help power fire lookout towers scattered across the White Mountains. For more information please contact Bob Gough, Secretary of ICOUP and Rebuild America Representative, at [rpwgough@aol.com](mailto:rpwgough@aol.com) or at 715-426-1415.

### **Havasupai Tribe "Town Meeting" on Energy Audits**

In late October, 1999 Doug Avery and Jim Cavallo from Rebuild America will be meeting with the **Havasupai Tribe** - a **Rebuild America** Partnership, located at the bottom of the Grand Canyon (AZ). The "Town Meeting" will serve to explain the benefits of home energy audits and energy efficiency. The expertise and educational products and services offered by Rebuild America could significantly contribute to this under served population through greater energy and financial savings. For more information, contact Bob McNichols, Superintendent of the Truxton Canyon Agency, Bureau of Indian Affairs, at 520-769-2286, x 302.

### **Rebuilding New Hampshire's Main Streets**

Kirk Stone of **Rebuild New Hampshire** met with 12 Main Street New Hampshire Executive Directors, along with the two staffers from the New Hampshire Main Street Center office to explore possible collaboration between Rebuild America and Main Street. The meeting occurred on Thursday, September 16, 1999, at the Town Hall in Plymouth, NH and covered Rebuild America's relevance to Main Street programs. As a result, many current Main Street projects were raised as being of possible interest to Rebuild America. For more information contact Kirk Stone, Governor's Office of Energy and Community Services, 57 Regional Drive, Concord, NH 03301 (603-271-2676 or [kstone@gov.state.nh.us](mailto:kstone@gov.state.nh.us)).

### **Performance Contracting Workshops**

On November 4-5, 1999 **Rebuild America Financial Services** will sponsor two workshops as part of the New Hampshire Municipal Association's Annual Conference. Each workshop will focus on saving money and energy in public buildings by developing, financing and implementing energy-efficiency upgrades. November 4th's workshop will be a short 1 hour session whereas November 5th's will be an in-depth day-long workshop. Performance contracting as well as conventional approaches will be addressed along with several case studies. The location for both of these sessions will be the Center of New Hampshire /Holiday Inn conference center in downtown Manchester, NH.

Audience: NH Municipal Association of Schools and Towns, School administrators, public sector, state and local government employees.

For registration information, please contact Kirk Stone, Governor's Office of Energy and Community Services, 57 Regional Drive, Concord, NH 03301 (603-271-2676 or [kstone@gov.state.nh.us](mailto:kstone@gov.state.nh.us)).

### **Teamwork in Bridgeport Connecticut**

**Rebuild Bridgeport** is planning a media event for October 7, 1999, to announce its new partnership with ENERGY STAR Buildings. Rebuild Bridgeport will present Rebuild America certificates to the City recognizing the completion of their Action Plan and kick off Rebuild Bridgeport's project implementation. The event will be sponsored by both DOE and EPA and will be held at the Aquaculture School in Bridgeport, CT. After a brief introduction by the Honorable Joseph P. Ganim, Bridgeport's Mayor and John Marsilio, Director of Public Facilities there will be presentations from DOE and EPA representatives and a certificate presentation. For more information contact: Cara Applegate at (301) 588-9387 or John Ruckes at (860) 418-6384.



### **Rebuild America Makes Quite a Catch!**

The Alaskan Division of Energy received a Rebuild America grant from the United States Department of Energy (USDOE) in July 1999. This grant, matched with state funds, provides for assessments of energy use, productivity and waste management in order to assist seafood processors with energy-efficiency measures. Rebuild America will provide technical support at no direct cost to five seafood processors this year. The seafood industry in Alaska represents

the largest private employer in a state that produces over half of the seafood for the nation. This industry also operates with an energy cost typically greater than three times that of the contiguous United States. The assessment findings will be presented in a confidential report sent to each company and will provide information on energy efficient products and practices, methods for enhancing productivity and waste reduction. Processors will be encouraged and helped to implement cost-saving measures but Rebuild America will not pay for products or retrofits. For more in depth information please contact Rebecca Garrett at (907) 269-4624 or e-mail [Rebecca\\_Garrett@dced.state.ak.us](mailto:Rebecca_Garrett@dced.state.ak.us). The Alaskan Division of Energy maintains an energy saving web page with links to energy efficiency agencies. Visit at: [http://www.comregaf.state.ak.us/doe\\_save.htm](http://www.comregaf.state.ak.us/doe_save.htm)

### **National Head Start Facilities Conference**

The Rebuild America message will be presented at the National Head Start Facilities Conference in Nashville, TN, September 27-29 at the invitation of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services regional office in Atlanta. Vicki Heidinger, leader of **Rebuild Asheville**, NC and Rebuild America staff members Larry Schoff and Ron Shelton, will host a 3 hour session on energy efficient design and renovation applicable to Head Start facilities. In addition, Ms. Heidinger will participate in a 90 minute satellite broadcast to discuss the Asheville Head Start program and the successful revitalization of a 1950's school building, now attended by 150 children. This project was recently awarded the 1999 Energy Excellence award for K-12 at the Rebuild America National Forum, held in Las Vegas NV.

The national Head Start program is providing funds to assist facility renovations across the country. A recent facilities survey identified \$95 million worth of renovation needs in the south-eastern region alone. For more information contact Ron Shelton at 423-576-7324, e-mail [srl@ornl.gov](mailto:srl@ornl.gov).

### **Congressional Briefing on EnergySmart Schools**

A congressional briefing, chaired by U.S. Representative Mark Udall of Colorado, was held in Washington, DC on September 23. The briefing focused on improved school design for new construction and renovation projects. These designs can provide opportunities to reduce energy costs, thereby freeing up funds for educational needs and improving the overall teaching and learning environment. Rebuild America staff worked with the Sustainable Buildings Industry Council and others to help organize the event. The panel of national experts included Gary Bailey, a nationally recognized architect specializing in energy efficient schools; Dr. Jeffrey Lackney, who has researched the effect of the physical setting on learning; and Dr. Frederick Morse, chairman of the Policy Committee for the Sustainable Buildings Industries Council. U.S. schools spend more than \$6 billion annually on energy, which exceeds the cost of books and supplies, and is second only to salary expenses. For more information contact Larry Schoff at 540-961-2184, e-mail lschoff@bellatlantic.net

### **Rebuild America Gets Recognized**

The two main supporters of **Rebuild Cedar Falls** (or **Conservation City** as it is known locally)— Cedar Falls Utilities and The Center for Energy and Environmental Education, University of Northern Iowa— will be presented with Certificates of Appreciation at an Energy Fair on October 2nd, 1999. Staff from the U.S. Department of Energy will attend to recognize the partners for their hard work and success. Cedar Falls Utilities (CFU) is hosting the Energy Fair and will feature renewable energy displays, local vendors of energy efficient equipment and information about the Rebuild America program in addition to a variety of other activities. For information contact Heather Silberhorn at 515.281.5007.

### **The City of Santa Monica Goes Green**

In October, the **City of Santa Monica**, a Rebuild America partnership, will adopt green building design and construction guidelines for new commercial and multi-family construction. The guidelines provide specific strategies for the following areas: Building Site and Form; Landscaping; Transportation; Building Envelope and Space Planning; Building Materials; Water Systems; Electrical Systems; HVAC Systems; Control Systems; Construction Management; and Commissioning. The guidelines will also require energy performance exceeding California's Title 24 standards. For more information, contact Susan Munves, Resource Efficiency Coordinator, City of Santa Monica at 310-458-8229 or susanmunves@ci-santa-monica.ca.us.

### **Secretary Richardson Invited to Dedicate Solar Carport During the P2 Conference in Albuquerque, New Mexico**

The U.S. Department of Energy, Sandia National Laboratories, Los Alamos National Laboratory, and the Waste-management Education & Research Consortium are hosting the 1999 Pollution Prevention (P2) Conference. It will be held at the Albuquerque Convention Center from November 15th - 19th, 1999. Secretary of Energy, Bill Richardson, will give a plenary presentation on November 16th as well as Assistant Secretary, EERE Dan Reicher. Other guest speakers will include architect William McDonough and energy visionary/author Amory Lovins.

Dave Melton, from the Rebuild America partnership, **Indian Pueblo Cultural Center**, has invited Secretary Richardson and Assistant Secretary Dan Reicher to dedicate a "solar

carport" at the Cultural Center. Mr. Melton has also invited New Mexico Secretary of Energy, Minerals, and Natural Resources Jennifer Salisbury and Albuquerque Mayor Jim Baca, who is seeking to make his city the "solar capital of the world". The "solar carport" will provide shade to vehicles in the Center's parking lot while generating electricity using embedded photovoltaic panels on the carport roof. The system will also serve to educate visitors about the advantages of renewable energy technology. For more information, contact Dave Melton at 505-247-4604.

### **Indoor Air Quality (IAQ) Training for Tribes**

The Washington State University Energy Program is helping the **Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians (ATNI)**, a Rebuild America partnership, to develop in-house expertise in IAQ, energy and resource efficiency and operation and maintenance of their buildings. This is good news for Rebuild America as it shows the program's commitment to serving traditionally under-served populations by offering energy efficiency services and expertise. Catherine Vanhorn from the Oregon Office of Energy recently wrote a proposal that will involve local Native American Tribes and technical assistance from Oregon and Washington state. For more information on workshops and other services offered by the Washington State University Energy Program, please point your browser to [www.energy.wsu.edu/wwwep/what's-new-iaq-training-19990901.htm](http://www.energy.wsu.edu/wwwep/what's-new-iaq-training-19990901.htm)

### **National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials' (NAHRO) Energy Training**

Rebuild America is sponsoring an energy training session as part of NAHRO's 1999 National Conference to be held October 17-20, 1999 in Philadelphia, PA. The session, entitled "Energy Management: Bottom Line Issues for Your Agency," will discuss the opportunities and benefits provided to public housing authorities by energy-related initiatives. Case studies will show how public housing authorities have addressed several key energy issues and used HUD's energy incentives to solve critical agency capital, equipment, and operational problems. For more information contact Mark Ternes at 423-574-0749 or e-mail [tmp@ornl.gov](mailto:tmp@ornl.gov).

### **Ohio Public Housing Conference**

Rebuild America is supporting the State of Ohio and its Rebuild America Partnership in putting on a state-wide public housing conference November 15th- 16th , 1999 in Canton, Ohio. The conference will serve to raise awareness among area public housing authority leaders about the opportunities to improve living conditions, make capital improvements and reduce operating costs in public housing through energy initiatives; educate attendees about HUD's energy incentives, performance contracting, electric deregulation, energy auditing and other approaches and issues that impact housing authority energy use; and stimulate action among attendees to initiate projects with assistance from community partners and Rebuild America. For more information contact Mark Ternes at 423-574-0749 or e-mail [tmp@ornl.gov](mailto:tmp@ornl.gov).

### **Rebuild Iowa Seeks New Communities**

Through a two-pronged marketing effort, **Rebuild Iowa** is busy recruiting communities to join Rebuild America's community-based energy-efficiency program. The Iowa Department of Natural Resources has sent out a Request for Proposal (RFP) to a select group of over 4,750 different organizations and individuals statewide. The RFP asks

interested parties to outline how Rebuild Iowa fits with their goals and how the program will be developed and organized locally. Those targeted in the mailing include Chambers of Commerce, Main Street Program Managers, County Supervisors, School Superintendents, local economic development offices, city administrators, municipal and investor owned utilities and key stakeholders representing a variety of associations. In addition to the RFP, the Department will directly market Rebuild Iowa to several potential new communities before the proposal deadline. These communities have already demonstrated a strong sense of community involvement, support and improvement. Meetings will be held with key members of those communities to discuss the program. While they will still have to go through the RFP selection process, this is a new approach in targeting communities for participation. Proposals are due on October 29th and the Department expects to announce its selection by the end of November. Rebuild Iowa is starting its fourth year and current partners include Cedar Falls, Webster City, Le Mars, Harlan and Pella. For more information on Rebuild Iowa or the RFP contact Kimberly Baxter at 515-281-6486 or e-mail kbaxter@max.state.ia.us

## **Rebuild America and Weatherization Meet Needs of Native American Village**

On September 19, 1999, Jim Cavallo, Program Manager for Existing Buildings Efficiency Research Program at Argonne National Lab and Rebuild America Program Team Technical Assistance, and Paul Knight, Research Architect at Argonne, descended the Grand Canyon on horseback to visit the Native American residents of the Supai Village. Jim and Paul set out to examine the Village's housing stock, Head Start building and Community Center for energy retrofit opportunities. After consulting with the Tribal Chairman, local medical staff, and Head Start leaders, Jim and Paul conducted energy audits on 6 houses and the two larger commercial buildings.



They determined that there is a dire need for energy efficiency retrofits and weatherization techniques to conserve energy, as well as an opportunity to place PV panels on the Head Start building. Photovoltaics would immediately address an unreliable energy source problem - an electric wire snaking down the side of the Canyon was knocked off grid by floods during the spring of 1999. This event triggered the need to helicopter the Havasupai Tribe out of the Canyon. The Red Rock Foundation is interested in supporting this photovoltaics project.



Jim and Paul also had an opportunity to talk to some 6th, 7th, and 8th-graders from the Village about energy efficiency and renewable energy. They were interested in the ideas and even agreed to monitor some net meters that Jim left for them. Using the meters and a computer program, they will be able to monitor energy use of several

buildings over a period of several months. This accumulated data will be very useful to quantify energy savings after efficiency and weatherization upgrades are made.

Energy efficiency retrofits and weatherization needs of this Tribe could be met by employing the combined strengths of Rebuild America and the Weatherization Assistance Program. A joint project could increase the "livability" and safety of the community's building stock, create local jobs, and save energy dollars. Safety and livability issues include the increased risk of CO poisoning as a building's envelope is tightened up, and other hazards such as Pb-based paint, radon, etc.

Using a model from the Chicago Housing Authority, teams of indigenous workers could be trained to conduct its own energy audits and weatherization upgrades. The trained teams at CHA started their own private enterprise to work outside its community, and the same concept could be applied to teams trained within the Havasupai Tribe.

Jim and Paul plan to return to the Supai Village on November 8, 1999 for an energy efficiency training session. Invited to this second meeting with the Havasupai Tribe is Amanda Ormond, Director of the Arizona State Energy Office.

For more information, contact Doug Hinrichs at 301.588.9387.

### **Tell Us More:**

Let your colleagues know what you are up to by submitting material for the Rebuild America Flash Report. It's easy - e-mail Alex Zartman at [alexz@drintl.com](mailto:alexz@drintl.com). No story is too big or too small! We'll write it up and shoot it out to hundreds of individuals who want to hear what's new and innovative in Rebuild America communities at work.

Hope to hear from you soon!