

BOARD OF ALDERMEN

ITEM NO.: D(1)

AGENDA ITEM ABSTRACT

MEETING DATE: **OCTOBER 20, 2009**

TITLE: Report from NC State Energy Office Energy on Energy Initiatives, Opportunities, and Timetables

DEPARTMENT: PLANNING, MANAGER, ECD	PUBLIC HEARING: YES ___ No <u>X</u>
ATTACHMENTS:	FOR INFORMATION CONTACT: PATRICIA MCGUIRE, RANDY DODD, MATT EFIRD, JAMES HARRIS,

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this agenda item is for the BOA to receive a report from the North Carolina State Energy Office (SEO) on current activities and initiatives, including American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) and other funding and financing opportunities and technical support services potentially available to the Town through the SEO.

INFORMATION:

Larry Shirley, the Director of the SEO, will provide a presentation summarizing the SEO current initiatives potentially of interest to the Town, and be available for discussion. The SEO offers a broad range of support related to the supply of and demand for energy. Relevant information on the SEO's various programs and activities is available at <http://www.energync.net/>. A current focus of SEO is management of ARRA funds. These efforts are being focused in six areas:

- Support small business and industry through energy savings
- Grow North Carolina's green workforce
- Foster renewable energy technology and resource innovation
- Improve energy efficiency in local and state government
- Promote residential energy efficiency and renewable energy
- Create an Energy Investment Revolving Loan Fund

The primary activity that the SEO is involved in that staff have been actively monitoring in 2009 is the anticipated release of an RFP for Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grants. The SEO has released an EECBG RFP for larger municipalities and counties, with an RFP being developed for smaller local governments (including Carrboro) pending. The BOA has expressed an interest in an energy revolving loan fund. Information on the SEO's website indicates that the SEO is working to establish a fund that offers low and/or no interest loans to support energy efficiency and renewable energy projects. Eligible parties include small businesses, industry, nonprofits, local governments, public schools and community colleges. The fund will offer loans of up to \$1 million with terms up to 20 years

FISCAL AND STAFF IMPACT:

There is no immediate fiscal or staff impact associated with this agenda item.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommend that the Board receive a presentation from the SEO.