

Apply for Pa. energy grants, loans

HARRISBURG — The Pennsylvania Energy Development Authority (PEDA) is making \$703,000 available to farmers and agricultural concerns for the completion of general energy development and energy conservation projects, according to state Agriculture Secretary Penrose Hallowell.

"These PEDA grant and loan programs give the commonwealth's agriculturalists a splendid opportunity to pioneer new methods of producing and conserving our vital energy resources," said Richard C. Waybright, a Gettysburg dairy farmer, who is a PEDA member. Waybright has incorporated a methane digester in his family's operation to convert gas from animal waste to electricity which is resold to the utility.

The purpose of the 1984-85 Energy Grant and Loan programs coordinated through the Pennsylvania Department of Commerce, in cooperation with the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture, is to promote and enhance the development and conservation of Pennsylvania's

energy resources. Hallowell is also on the 17-member PEDA Board of Directors.

Waybright said the focus of the grant proposals are those energy technologies which are not yet considered commercially available; those which will maximize the use of Pennsylvania energy resources; and those which will enhance the wider use of Pennsylvania's energy resources. The loan program is concerned with sources that can be developed for commercial and market-viable application.

Possible projects include: methane production from animal waste; passive and active solar heating and cooling for farm buildings; on-farm alcohol for fuel production; wood combustion and pyrolysis (burning wood to produce usable gas); hydroelectric projects; and electricity production from wind power.

Proposals must meet certain "core" criteria to qualify for consideration under either program. All proposals must demonstrate that the project will

develop or make more efficient use of Pennsylvania energy resources or lead to that end; demonstrate that the project can effectively be funded in whole by utilizing privately available resources and must justify Authority assistance; show that funds from other sources, including the sponsor and federal, state, local or other private sources are firmly committed (only in exceptional circumstances will the Authority

provide 100 percent assistance for project costs); and be located entirely or largely within the boundaries of the commonwealth.

Loans are awarded only for projects located within the commonwealth. However, loan applications must be received no later than August 31, 1985. General Energy Development Grant proposals must be received at the Authority's office by 5 p.m. on February 22, 1985. Awards will be

made in May 1985. In exceptional circumstances, the Authority may consent to a portion of the project being conducted out of state if necessary facilities or equipment or not available.

For further information, including eligibility requirements write: William A. Roth, Executive Director, Pennsylvania Energy Development Authority, 462 Forum Building, Harrisburg, PA 17102, or phone (717) 787-6554.



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The Federal Crop Insurance Corporation has a new program which is based on the actual production history of each producer. Producers can now insure their crop based on the

value of what they've produced in the past, not what their neighbors have produced. It can actually mean lower costs and better coverage for the better producers.

It's designed so that, in the long run, premiums paid in will equal the payments returned to the farmer for crop losses. In the short run, it will help protect farmers' cash flow from year to year.

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For more information, producers should contact their local Federal Crop Insurance Corporation representative or their own insurance agent.



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