



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF
ENERGY

Energy Efficiency &
Renewable Energy

Sustainable Energy Resources for Consumers (SERC) Projects

Webinar for Grantees, Local Agencies, and DOE Project Officers

October 6, 2010

Version: 3a: corrected average cost on Slide 12

**Weatherization and Intergovernmental Program
Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy**



PLEASE CALL-IN FOR AUDIO: 877-940-9980

PLEASE MUTE YOUR PHONE DURING THE PRESENTATION PERIODS

This webinar will cover the following topics:

- 30 Minutes: SERC Programmatic Information: grant amendments, FAQs, monitoring, reporting, evaluation, among other topics
- 15 Minutes: Audience Q&A
- 30 Minutes: Overview of available Technical Assistance for the SERC projects, from the National Renewable Energy Lab (NREL).
- 15 minutes: Audience Q&A.

We will distribute the slides after the webinar.



http://www1.eere.energy.gov/wip/serc_projects.html



Resources for You:

1. Website: <http://www1.eere.energy.gov/wip/serc.html>
2. June 8, 2010 Letter inviting your response on SERC
3. August 25, 2010 Letter from DOE announcing your award selection
4. Guidance WPN 10-19 on your Grant Amendment
 - a) Forthcoming: step-by-step guide to adding this to PAGE
5. List of Q&A, last updated 9-22-10



Background

- Established by EISA 2007, Section 411(b), to take 2% of WAP funds, if they exceed \$275 million in a fiscal year, for “Sustainable Energy Resources for Consumers Grants” (SERC)
- Funds are for local weatherization agencies, but Grantees must provide financial oversight

Principal Objective of SERC, per Section 411(b)

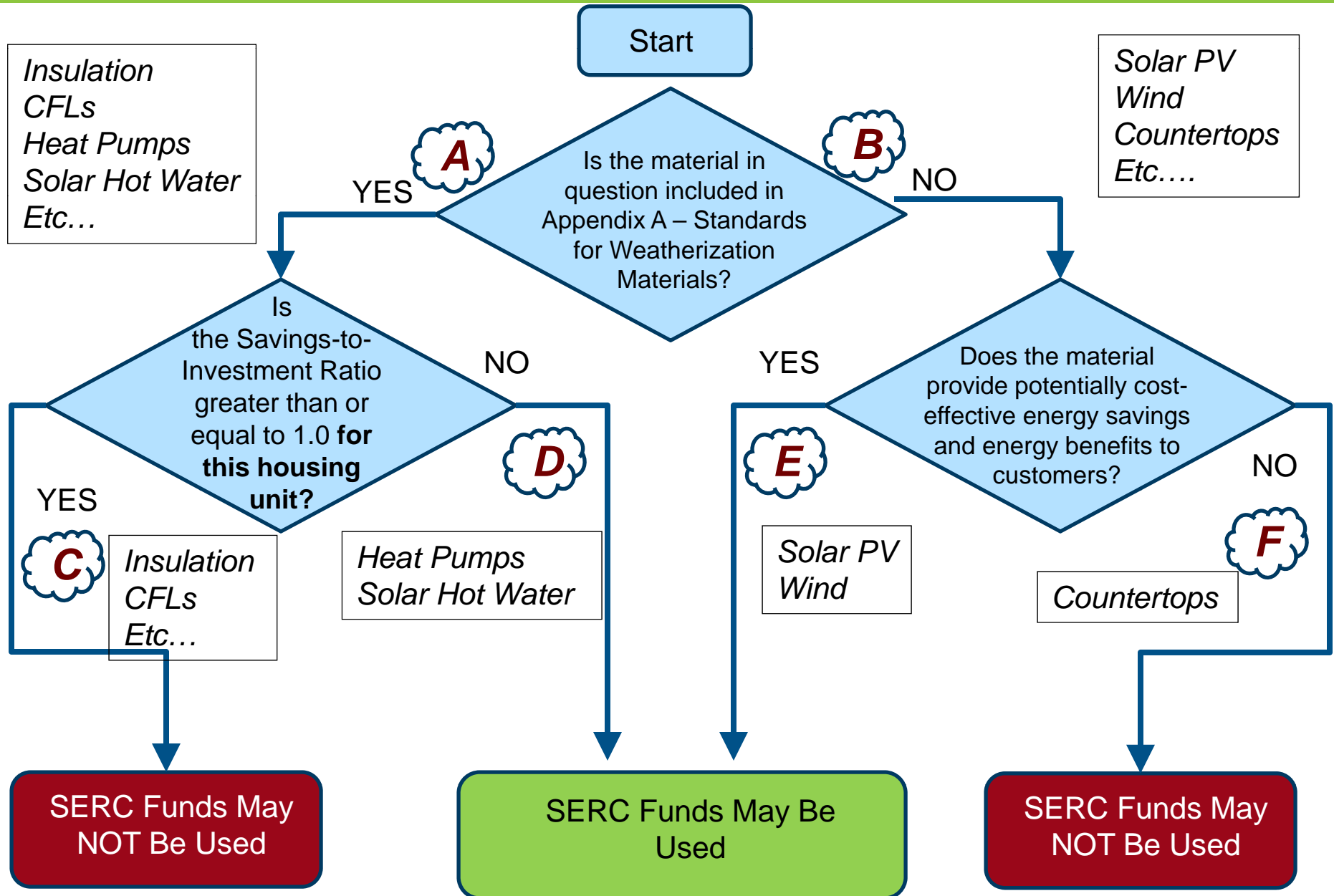
- Expand WAP for “materials, benefits, and renewable and domestic energy technologies” not currently covered
- More on next slide
- **DOE will approve materials/technologies and answer questions you have about eligibility**

Priorities of SERC (From EISA Section 411(b))

- A. Cost-effectiveness to low- and moderate-income families
- B. Potential for replication of successful results
- C. Impact on health and safety and energy costs
- D. Extent of partnerships, including financial partnerships



Determining Eligibility for SERC Expenditure on Materials/Technologies





Renewable Energy

- Solar photovoltaics
- Solar shingles
- Small-scale wind energy
- Solar hot water heaters
- Solar thermal heating

**Approximately \$42 million of
SERC is for renewable energy
technologies**

Energy Efficiency

- Hot water heaters: tankless, heat pump, GeoSpring, and others
- Ground & Air Source heat pumps
- Ductless heat pumps
- In-home energy monitor displays
- Efficient clothes washers & driers
- Cool roof technologies
- R-5 windows

....among many others

**Approximately \$48 million of
SERC is for energy-efficient
technologies**



- A “categorical exclusion” has been given for Weatherization Assistance Program
- Almost all energy-efficient technologies are also categorically excluded
- **Onsite renewable energy technology** that generates electricity from renewable resources
 - Solar Electricity/Photovoltaic - appropriately sized system or unit on existing rooftops and parking shade structures; or a 60 KW system or smaller unit installed on the ground within the boundaries of an existing facility.
 - Wind Turbine - 20 KW or smaller.
 - Solar Thermal - system must be 20 KW or smaller.
 - Solar Thermal Hot Water - appropriately sized for residences or small commercial buildings.
 - Ground Source Heat Pump - 5.5 tons of capacity or smaller, horizontal/vertical, ground, closed-loop system.
 - Combined Heat and Power System - boilers sized appropriately for the buildings in which they are located.
 - Biomass Thermal - 3 MMBTUs per hour or smaller system with appropriate Best Available Control Technologies (BACT) installed and operated.



A Grant Amendment will need to be submitted and approved by your DOE Project Officer and Contracting Officer

1. Please see Weatherization Program Notice 10-19 which lays out the changes that will need to be made:

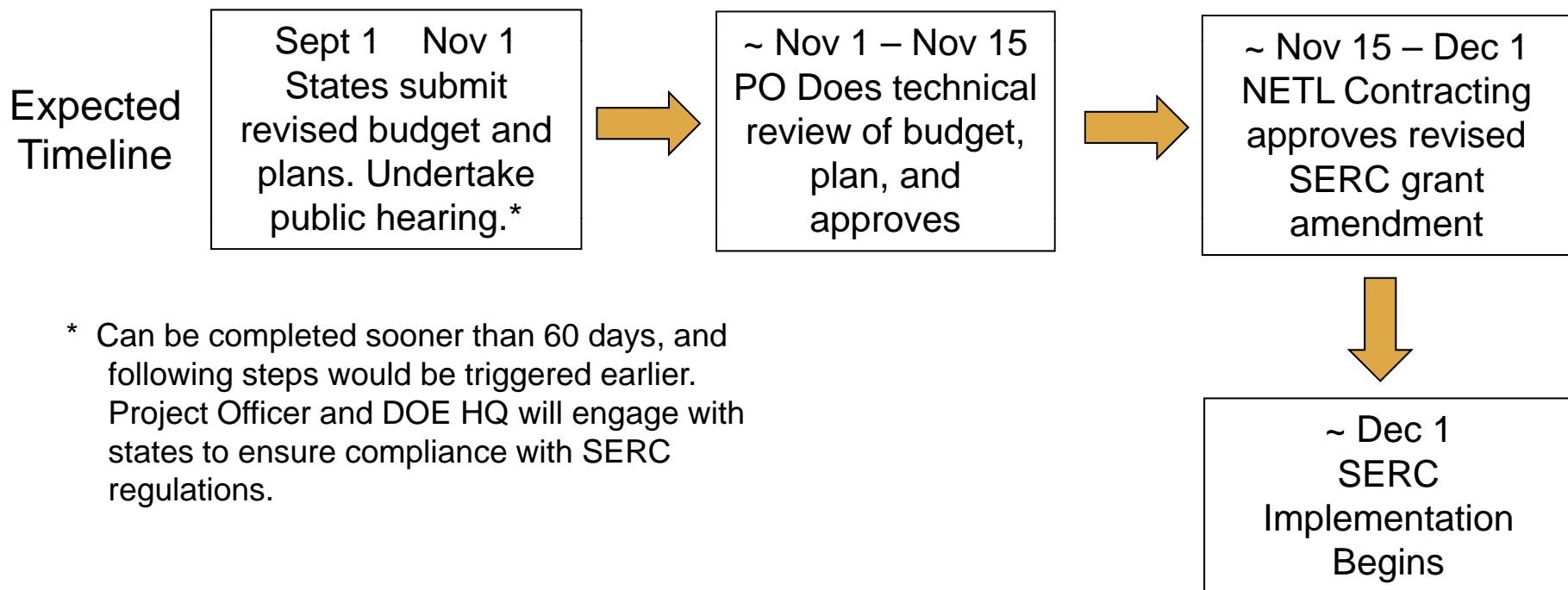
http://waptac.com/data/files/website_docs/government/guidance/2010/wpn%2010-19.pdf

The following sections are needed in your Grant Amendment.

1. Type of Work.
2. SERC Monitoring of projects.
3. SERC Training & Technical Assistance.
4. SERC Evaluation and Energy Savings.
5. Moderate-income eligibility.
6. Geographic Areas to be Served.
7. Client Education.
8. Energy-Related Health and Safety Costs.



2. Arriving soon: Step-by-Step instructions for PAGE updates.
3. PAGE is ready to accept your grant amendments as of Wednesday, Oct 6, 2010.





There will be four new budget categories for SERC

Budget Category	Notes
SERC Grantee Administration	No more than 5%
SERC Subgrantee Administration	Grantee + Subgrantee Admin can't exceed 10%
SERC Program Operations	Majority of funds will be here. Any training activities should be captured here.
SERC Health and Safety	- For SERC related H&S and incidental repair costs. - No more than 10% total. - No single unit should have these costs exceed the value of the SERC material/technology installed

Additional Notes

- Max of \$30,000 for any one unit, inclusive of all costs
- Average SERC expenditure \$12,000 per unit for each State. **Average includes Program Operations + Health and Safety, but not the two Administrative categories.**
- Funds must be expended by March 31, 2012



Summary of Reporting Requirements for SERC, referencing current WAP requirements:

Report	Frequency	SERC Activities included within this report?
Monthly Report	Monthly	NO
OMB 1512*	Quarterly	YES, included in existing report*
FFR	Quarterly	YES, included in existing report
Existing QPR	Quarterly	NO
New QPR	Quarterly	YES, NEW report in PAGE (see next slide)

* Please include the additional SERC funds in your OMB 1512 report due in October, 2010 covering July through September



New SERC Quarterly Performance Report (QPR)

Expected First Entry: January 31, 2011 for Oct, Nov, Dec 2010 activities

A. Grantee Data

- i. Total SERC Units Completed
- ii. Jobs – Hours worked
- iii. SERC Units Completed by Type
- iv. SERC Units Completed by Primary Heating Fuel
- v. SERC Units Completed by Occupancy
- vi. SERC Total People Assisted
- vii. SERC Total Outlays (by category)

*Equivalent to
WAP reporting
sections*

B. Subgrantee Data – For SERC subgrantees only

- i. SERC Outlays
- ii. SERC Units Completed

*Equivalent to
WAP Subgrantee
reporting section*

C. SERC Activities at Grantee Level (NEW for SERC)

- i. By technology (Hot water systems, solar PV, heat pumps, etc...)
- ii. Report “Number of housing units in which SERC Technology was installed”

A public comment period is forthcoming on the new QPR. A spreadsheet, with the data needed for each State, will be available for your viewing and comment.



- **States have the responsibility to ensure these projects are successful and will need to perform State monitoring of the local agency projects.**
- **Monitoring on SERC projects will be also be completed by DOE staff**
 - Expected to be completed together with WAP monitoring
 - Expect another half-day of in-office monitoring
 - Expect the potential for additional site visits for SERC projects
- **More information will be distributed as Monitoring of these projects gets closer and underway.**



Website:

<http://www1.eere.energy.gov/wip/serc.html>

- Project information
- Technical Assistance
- Contact information
- Coming soon: Policy & Guidance

Program Guidance:

Will be communicated like other WAP Program Guidances. Will be posted at <http://waptac.com/Rules-0024amp;-Guidance/Program-Guidance.aspx>

Questions and Answers:

Ask SustainableEnergyWAP@ee.doe.gov FAQ's will be distributed through DOE Project Officers. Latest version is 9-22-10, Version 4.

The screenshot shows a web browser window displaying the 'Weatherization and Intergovernmental Program: Sustainable Energy Resources for Consumers (SERC)' website. The page features the U.S. Department of Energy logo and the program title. A navigation menu includes links for HOME, ABOUT, PROJECTS, PROGRAM GUIDANCE, TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE, FINANCIAL OPPORTUNITIES, and INFORMATION RESOURCES. The main content area is titled 'Sustainable Energy Resources for Consumers (SERC) Grants' and provides information about the program, including a link to 'You can read more about each project here.'



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY | Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energy

Weatherization & Intergovernmental Program

HOME ABOUT PROJECTS PROGRAM GUIDANCE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FINANCIAL OPPORTUNITIES INFORMATION RESOURCES

EERE » Weatherization & Intergovernmental Program » About



Plans, Implementation, & Results

Weatherization Assistance Program

WAP - Sustainable Energy Resources for Consumers Grants

SERC Projects

SERC Technical Assistance

Contact Information

WAP - Weatherization Innovation Pilot Program

State Energy Program

Energy Efficiency & Conservation Block Grant Program

Tribal Energy Program

Recovery Act

Contacts

SERC Technical Assistance

The National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) is available to provide Technical Assistance, or "TA," to the local weatherization agencies and Grantees which are implementing the Sustainable Energy Resources for Consumers (SERC) projects. Technical Assistance requests may include technology-specific questions, project management, and contracting such as developing requests-for-proposals or specifications, among other topics. The goal of technical assistance is to help the SERC projects succeed within the conditions and guidelines of the program. When contacting NREL, please include your State, and if you are a local agency, also include the name of your organization.

If you are a SERC local weatherization agency or Grantee and would like to request technical assistance, please email your specific request to SERC_TA@nrel.gov.

Please note this email address is only for local weatherization agencies and Grantees implementing SERC projects. The Weatherization Assistance Program's Technical Assistance Center is located at <http://www.waptac.org/>. To request general technical assistance, please visit the [Solution Center](#).



National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) will provide TA for these projects.

SERC_TA@nrel.gov

To be discussed in more detail during second part of this webinar.



OAK RIDGE NATIONAL LABORATORY

Managed by UT-Battelle for the Department of Energy

- Oak Ridge National Laboratory will be conducting evaluation of the SERC Projects
- Goals include:
 - Determine cost-effectiveness of technologies installed (SIR),
 - Are there technologies that should be installed in WAP?
 - What benefits and barriers are encountered with these new technologies?
- Utility bill collection will be a part of this. You may need a new waiver. Please see SERC Q&A 9-22-10_v4, Question 23.



Tyler Huebner

Weatherization Assistance Program

Department of Energy

tyler.huebner@ee.doe.gov

SustainableEnergyWAP@ee.doe.gov

202-287-1378

Website: <http://www1.eere.energy.gov/wip/serc.html>

You may also contact your DOE Project Officer



ADDITIONAL Q&A WILL BE TAKEN FROM AUDIENCE AT THIS TIME

PLEASE MUTE YOUR PHONE WHEN NOT ASKING A QUESTION



See Q&A from 9-22-10, Q16

Q: Which units are eligible for SERC?

A: If low-income, the home should be eligible within WAP. DOE intends that the unit has been weatherized, or will be concurrently weatherized, to the SERC project.

If moderate-income, the home should not be in condition such that the agency would “walk away” under WAP.

No matter the income, the unit shall not need incidental repairs and health and safety expenses that exceed the value of the SERC material/technology installed.

See Q&A from 9-22-10, Q9 & Q16

Q: Are ancillary costs and repair costs allowed?

A: To the extent ancillary equipment, upgrades, and repairs are necessary to ensure proper performance of the installed SERC measure, they are allowed. Examples include: equipment for renewable energy, electrical interconnection upgrades, roof re-shingling in areas to accommodate solar panel installation. The value of these items, in total, should not exceed the value of the SERC material/technology installed.



See Q&A from 9-22-10, Q21

Q: Can WAP T&TA funds be used for SERC?

A: Yes.

SERC Funds may be used for two types of training activities, to directly support the proper implementation and effectiveness of SERC technologies:

1. Training of workforce to install SERC technologies for which Grantee/local agency has been approved and funded
2. Training of clients for proper operation and maintenance of the SERC technologies installed

The previously-distributed T&TA funds may be used to supplement SERC funds for T&TA activities. State monitoring of SERC projects may be paid for out of SERC Grantee Administration or out of WAP T&TA funds.



See Q&A from 9-22-10, Q13

Q: What purchasing/procurement regulations and requirements will be in effect?

A: There are no special procurement rules for SERC. The existing procurement rules are to be used. This means the most stringent between the local agency's rules and State's rules will apply.



http://www1.eere.energy.gov/eere_faq/detail_search.aspx?IDQuestion=339&pid=10&spid=2

Q: What about homes in which a solar unit will be installed for use on the hot water heater?

A: With respect to solar, the described work would meet the description of residential construction if it is being performed on a single family residence or apartment/condominium, etc. of 4 stories or less and the general wage determination for residential construction for the applicable county would apply. If the structure is more than 4 stories or is a building, not a residence, then the general wage determination for building construction for the applicable county would apply. All individuals performing this work should be paid at the plumber or electrician rate, depending on local code, in accordance with the residential or building construction wage determination.

If the work is mostly electrical work, pay at the electrician rate; if mostly plumbing, pay at the plumbing rate.



See SERC Q&A 9-22-10_v4, Question 15

Q: If the work does not fall into an existing wage category, what should we do?

A: Contractors or local agencies need to fill out a Standard Form 1444 wage conformance which the Department of Labor (DOL) will use to determine what is the correct Davis Bacon wage rate for the work. The contractor or local agency must provide specific details on precisely the type of work to be performed. This form will need to be filled out for each county in which the work is to be completed.

The order to complete this is the contractor or local agency fills out form, sends to State, who sends to Project Officer, who sends to Contracting Officer, who sends to DOL. When DOL has completed its review and made a determination, the Contracting Officer will be notified of the new wage rate to be used in the contract. Timing is averaging several weeks to get the paperwork through.