

# Weatherization & Intergovernmental Program

## EECBG/SEP GRANTEE TA IMPACT STATEMENT

### DOE’s TAP Helps Trenton, New Jersey, Identify an Energy Services Company for Energy Efficiency Retrofits

#### SUMMARY

The Department of Energy’s (DOE) Technical Assistance Program (TAP) team provided technical assistance to Trenton, New Jersey, to help prepare for the use of energy savings performance contracting (ESPC) for energy efficiency retrofits to municipal buildings and light-emitting diode (LED) street lighting. Trenton officials requested that the DOE TAP ESPC team review and make recommendations on a preliminary energy audit of 70 municipal buildings.

#### PROJECT STATISTICS

**PROJECT TITLE:** Technical Assistance for ESPC for Trenton, New Jersey

**GRANTEE:** City of Trenton, New Jersey

**LOCATION:** Trenton, New Jersey

#### PROJECT DESCRIPTION

##### *Problem Statement*

In support of its energy master plan, the City of Trenton, New Jersey, recently performed an independent, preliminary energy audit of 70 municipal buildings, which identified a variety of energy conservation measures (ECMs) that could be implemented. City officials also were interested in retrofitting the street lights to LEDs. To complete the work, the city is planning to contract with an energy services company (ESCO) using ESPC.

##### *TA Description*

Trenton officials wanted to set up an ESPC to perform the municipal building retrofits. However, the city did not have enough technical expertise in-house, so officials had been talking to the City of Newark,

#### MAJOR IMPACTS AND OUTCOMES

- *Provided comments on Trenton’s preliminary facility audit.*
- *Prepped city officials for discussing energy efficiency project proposals with ESCOs.*
- *Positioned city to move forward with spending its grant money.*

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New Jersey, to exchange information about the ESPC concept and process.

In early January 2011, Trenton officials contacted the DOE TAP ESPC Team to review the preliminary energy audit results and recommend ECMs they could later discuss with candidate ESCOs. Trenton officials also wanted the DOE TAP Team to provide information about best practices and lessons learned from other energy efficiency projects that used ESPCs.

The city started receiving bids from ESCOs on January 13, 2011. With the goal of having a signed contract in place by the end of February 2011, the city requested a quick turnaround on the advice from the DOE TAP ESPC Team.

Before proceeding on delivery of the technical assistance, the DOE TAP ESPC team needed to await approval from DOE's Oak Ridge National Laboratory. That approval came on January 21, 2011. The team received the audit materials from Trenton on January 26, 2011, and then expedited its comprehensive review of the preliminary audit and recommended ECMs. The review was completed by February 4, 2011, and the team submitted a memorandum of results and recommendations to Trenton.

### IMPACT AND OUTCOMES

#### *TA Impact*

The city now has a third-party review of the results of its preliminary audit of potential energy efficiency projects for 70 municipal facilities, as well as recommendations regarding specific ECMs for each facility. The technical assistance provided will help Trenton expedite contracting with an ESCO and implement the desired retrofit projects.

#### *Project Impact*

The technical assistance the DOE TAP ESPC Team offered helped the city gain an understanding of how to interpret the results of its preliminary energy audit and prepared city officials to participate in discussions with the ESCOs submitting proposals to do the energy efficiency retrofit work. Ultimately, the city will be better prepared to move forward with ESPC to complete its retrofits and begin saving energy and money.

***This TA Impact Statement can be found in DOE Weatherization and Intergovernmental Program's Solution Center at: [http://www1.eere.energy.gov/wip/solutioncenter/pdfs/eecbg\\_tap\\_impact\\_statement\\_trenton\\_nj\\_revised\\_0811.pdf](http://www1.eere.energy.gov/wip/solutioncenter/pdfs/eecbg_tap_impact_statement_trenton_nj_revised_0811.pdf)***

#### *Who is TAP?*

*The Department of Energy's (DOE) Technical Assistance Program (TAP) supports state, local, and Tribal communities in both the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant Program (EECBG) and the State Energy Program (SEP). TAP provides direct technical assistance, aggregated products like workshops and webcasts, and tools and resources needed to implement successful and sustainable clean energy programs.*