



# Sonoma County Efficiency Financing Program Newsletter December 2012

## Useful Links

[SCEF Program website](#)

[SCEF Program FAQs](#)

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## North Coast Builders Exchange Informational Meeting

In preparation for the program, the SCEF team is working with the North Coast Builders Exchange to inform local contractors about potential energy and water retrofit projects. Although the specific projects will be managed through large energy service companies, it is expected that local contractors will perform the vast majority of the work. On November 14th, an informational meeting was held at the NCBE offices. For further information, please contact Amy Bolten at [amy.bolten@scwa.ca.gov](mailto:amy.bolten@scwa.ca.gov) or 707-547-1981.

Welcome to the Sonoma County Efficiency Financing (SCEF) Program Newsletter. This newsletter is intended as a vehicle to keep the public informed of the program as it progresses. We thank you for your interest in the program and look forward to hearing your questions and comments.

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## NEW: Financing of On-site Power Generation

On-site power generation, such as fuel cells and CHP (combined heat and power), are now allowed into the SCEF program. This means that energy service companies (ESCOs) would be able to offer a combination of efficiency retrofits and on-site power generation packages. For some facilities, this could help further offset energy costs.

## Audits Are Underway!

The program is moving forward at a great pace. Many participants have already selected an ESCO and are moving forward with their no-cost energy and water efficiency audits. The list of prequalified ESCOs includes Ameresco, Honeywell Building Solutions, Johnson Controls, NORESKO, Schneider-Electric, Siemens Industry, PEPCO and Trane.

## Enrollment Closing Soon

Enrollment is about to close for any public schools, governments or non-profits interested in participating in the SCEF program. December 12th will be the final day any entity can enroll. Please contact Amy Bolten at 707-322-8156 if you would like to discuss possible participation prior to this date.

## Education Day Success!

On October 19th, 2012, representatives from Sonoma County public and non-profit organizations gathered for a daylong meeting to review and discuss the details of the SCEF program. Also in attendance were the pre-qualified energy service companies (ESCOs) who will be carrying out the retrofit projects. There were great discussions about the program, in which many questions were answered. Those in attendance were able to listen to presentations by the prequalified ESCOs and talk one-on-one with the companies.



## What is the SCEF Program?

The Sonoma County Water Agency has launched a program to finance energy efficiency and water conservation retrofits for public and non-profit institutions. The Sonoma County Efficiency Financing (SCEF) program is a scaled down version of a Sustainable Energy Utility (SEU) model which was developed by Dr. John Byrne and his colleagues at the Center for Energy & Environmental Policy at the University of Delaware. The first SEU model was adopted by the State of Delaware and is currently implementing nearly \$73M in energy and water retrofit projects at public facilities in the State.

Under the SCEF Program, participating organizations will contract with an Energy Service Company to complete energy and water conservation measures using standardized contract language that protects the owner. Improvements could include: street lighting; building lighting; pumps; HVAC; system controls; boilers; chillers; ducting; windows; partial roofing; toilets; and others. The participating organizations will receive substantial utility cost savings, including a contractual guarantee sufficient to cover the full cost of all retrofit work. The Program intends to use tax-exempt bonds to finance the projects.