



Committed to the future of rural communities.

# RURAL ENERGY FOR AMERICA PROGRAM (*FARM BILL—SECTION 9007*)

## • **PURPOSE**

- This section directs the Secretary of Agriculture to make loans, loan guarantees, and grants to farmers and rural small businesses to purchase renewable energy systems and make energy efficiency improvements
- Since fiscal year 2003, Oklahoma has provided 26 rural small businesses with grants totaling \$1,484,830

## • **ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS**

- Agricultural Producers and Rural small businesses—an entity is considered a small business in accordance with SBA's small business size standards

## • **ELIGIBLE PROJECTS**

- Energy efficiency projects typically involve installing or upgrading equipment that results in a significant reduction in energy use from current operatives
- Energy efficiency improvements verified by an energy audit or assessment
- Purchase a renewable energy system i.e.; wind turbines, solar, biomass and geothermal

## • **FUNDING AVAILABILITY**

- Minimum Grant Amount: \$1,500
- Maximum Grant Amount: \$250,000
- Grant requests must not exceed 25 percent of the eligible project costs

## • **APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS**

- Applicants must demonstrate financial need
- For grants in the amount of \$200,000 or less, applicants should follow the simplified grant application criteria and procedures in USDA regulation 4280.109
- The Notice of Solicitation Availability (NOSA) provides complete details on the application process. A copy of the NOSA will be available in pdf format, as published in the Federal Register. Application information can be found at <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/rd/energy/>.

## • **EXAMPLES OF ENERGY EFFICIENCY PROJECTS**

- Small Business—Install energy efficient equipment and lighting in a restaurant using a RASERS, install energy efficient equipment in a linen cleaning facility using a RASERS, install new boiler system and high efficiency dry kilns, and energy conservation and efficiency for office/warehouse for calibrated day lighting controls, lighting controls, lighting design alternatives, conditioning of outside air, and insulation.

## • **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

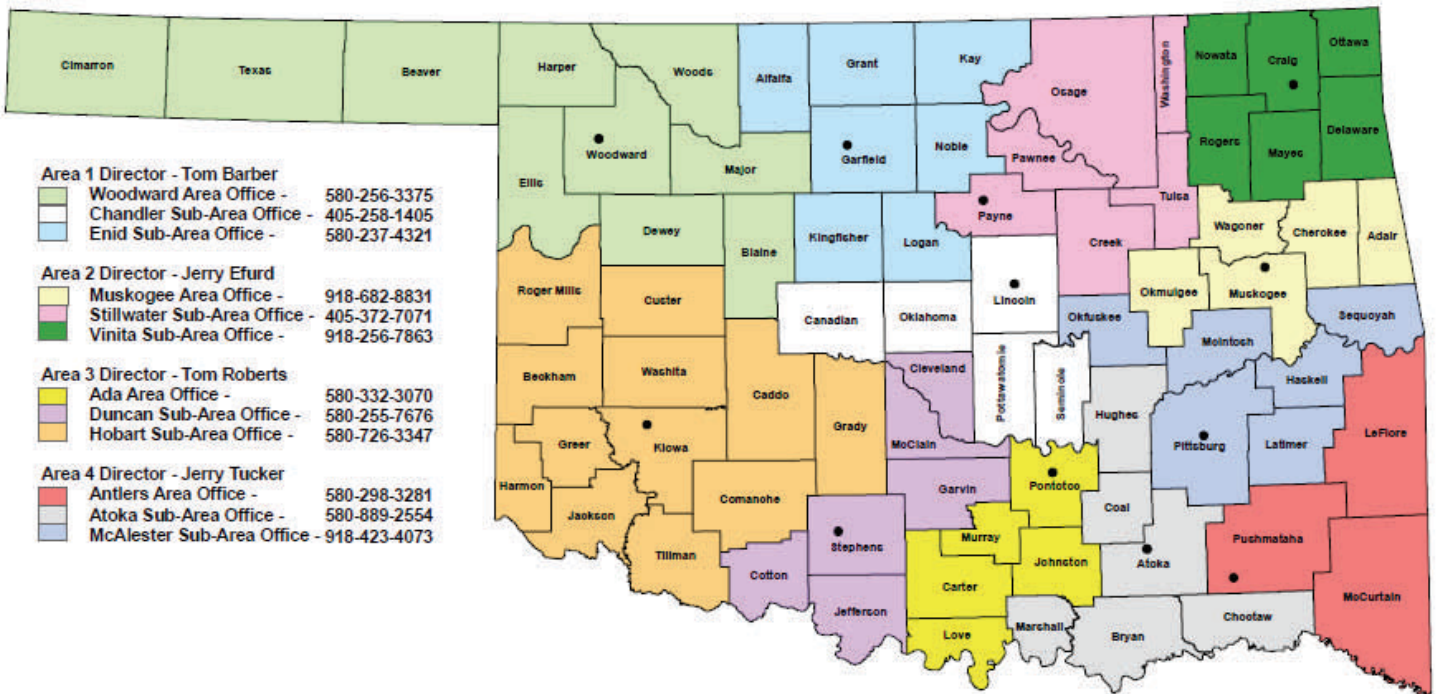
- Additional information can be obtained by calling Jody Harris, Rural Energy Coordinator, at (800) 522-3819 ext. 1060
- You can also contact the Rural Development Office that serves your county, which is shown on the Oklahoma Rural Development Offices map. (over)



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# RURAL ENERGY FOR AMERICA PROGRAM (*FARM BILL SECTION 9007*) CONTINUED

## Oklahoma Rural Development Offices



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