



Massachusetts Department of Energy Resources  
*Creating A Greener Energy Future For the Commonwealth*

**Green Communities Act Workshop  
Mass Municipal Association**

**November 7, 2008**

## **Launching the Green Communities Division**

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## **Green Communities Program**

- Provides up to \$10M annually in grants and loans to qualifying communities
- Qualification Criteria
  - File an application
  - Adopt as-of-right siting, in designated locations, for RE/AE generation, or RE/AE R&D, or RE/AE manufacturing
  - Adopt expedited (12 month) application/permitting process
  - Establish an energy use baseline inventory with a program to reduce baseline by 20% in 5 years
  - Purchase only fuel-efficient vehicles
  - Require all new residential construction > 3000 ft<sup>2</sup>, and new commercial and industrial real estate construction to minimize life-cycle energy costs

## **Green Communities Program - Schedule**

- RGGI Auction held September 24 - Funds allocated for piloting Green Communities program
- Currently preparing guidelines/application as well as program for technical assistance
- Fund significant energy efficiency initiatives, renewable energy, innovative projects
- Currently plan to launch the program in December

## **Green Communities Program - Zoning**

- Provide for as-of-right siting, in designated locations, of RE/AE generation, or RE/AE R&D, or RE/AE manufacturing

## **Green Communities Program - Permitting**

- Adopt expedited (12 month) application/permitting process for the renewable energy and alternative energy facilities



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## **Green Communities Program – Energy Inventory and Reduction Plan**

- Establish an energy use baseline inventory for municipal buildings, vehicles, street and traffic lighting and put in place a program to reduce this baseline by 20% in 5 years



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## **Green Communities Program - Vehicles**

- Purchase only fuel-efficient vehicles for municipal use whenever such vehicles are commercially available and practicable

## **Green Communities Program – New Construction**

- Require all new residential construction > 3000 ft<sup>2</sup>, and new commercial and industrial real estate construction to minimize, to the extent feasible, life-cycle energy costs of the facility



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## Green Communities Program

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