



## The Rebuild America August 1999 Flash Report

“Good News from America’s Cities and Towns”

Here is your latest edition of the Rebuild America Flash Report. This report is delivered via e-mail or fax to all Rebuild America program team members and the main contacts of all Rebuild America partnerships. The Flash Report is becoming a great resource for partnerships and others within Rebuild to keep up to date with all the events and happenings going on across the country.

Please share your news with us! There is always room for another story!

To comment on this report, or to submit information for the next Rebuild America Flash Report, please contact Alex Zartman at D&R International by phone: (301) 588-9387, fax: (301) 588-0854, or e-mail at [alexz@drintl.com](mailto:alexz@drintl.com).

Note: Be sure to include your name and contact information with any submissions. Information used in the Flash Report may be included in Rebuild America weekly reports to the US Department of Energy.

~~~~~

### New Partnerships:

- Kansas Corporation Commission, (KS)
- Alabama Department of Economic & Community Affairs, (AL)
- Rebuild Randolph & Tucker Counties, (WV)
- City of Jackson, (MS)
- Housing Authority of Baltimore City, (MD)
- Clark County, (NV)
- City of Jackson, (MS)
- Housing Authority of Baltimore City, (MD)
- Nevada Center for Vocational Education & Research Corporation (NCVER)
- Maine Power Options, ME
- Washoe County Energy Management Program, Reno, (NV)
- Lyon County School District, Yerington, (NV)
- University of New Mexico, Physical Plant Department, (NM)
- Rebuild Mississippi County, (MS)
- Carson Valley Inn, (NV)
- Southern Sustainability, (IL)

### 1999 Rebuild America National Forum a Success

By all accounts, the National Rebuild America Forum in Las Vegas was a huge success. Over three hundred individuals from 46 states, the District of Columbia, Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, and the Province of Ontario, Canada participated.

Conference planning Committees and organizers did a superb job of designing a forum that covered a wide range of interests representative of Rebuild America programs around the nation. Sessions held over two and a half-days ranged from energy-efficient tools and technology to sustainable community development; from interactive peer exchange to marketing; from partnership development to energy performance contracting. Attendees were also treated to several special speakers. Among them were Denis Hayes, the national coordinator of the very first Earth Day, John Schaeffer, CEO of the Real Goods Trading Company, Mayor Garret Nancolas of Caldwell, Idaho; and Nevada State Senator Randolph Townshend. The forum also introduced 15 private sector Business Partners that will provide additional expertise to partnerships through education and other resources.

## **Preservation Magazine Gives Rebuild America the Nod**

Rebuild America received a nod from *Preservation* magazine (July/August - pg. 19) in an article about 'green' initiatives, particularly in urban and suburban neighborhoods. Conway Rose, leader of the North Carolina LaGrange Redevelopment Foundation, a Rebuild America partnership, was mentioned, as was the innovative revitalization work begun under the auspices of the Foundation in LaGrange's historic downtown district.



## **The City that Works -- Leading By Example**

The City of Portland is known as the "city that works", and there is no doubt they take that motto seriously. The Portland Partners for Energy Efficiency, led by the Portland Energy Office, is surpassing all their partnership's goals - ahead of schedule. To date, the partnership has retrofitted 58 million square feet of building space, doubling their original goal of 27 million square feet. They have also exceeded their goal for energy savings by 47,000 MMBTU to total over 656,000 MMBTU saved throughout the city. The Portland Partners for Energy Efficiency was commended by the U.S. DOE with the Rebuild America 1999 Energy Champion Award for Partnership of the Year.

The historic Hollywood Theatre, located in the heart of Portland's Hollywood district, is saving over \$1,000 per year on a lighting upgrade of their marquee.

## **The Sun is Shining on "Rebuild Native America"**

One Rebuild America partnership, the Rosebud Sioux Tribe of South Dakota — a founding member of Intertribal Council On Utility Policy (ICOUP) — was chosen to be one of the eight recipients of the "Remote Applications of Renewable Power Technologies on Native American Lands." This \$1,017,500 financial award given by the U.S. Department of Energy will assist the Rosebud Tribe and ICOUP to begin installation and monitoring of a 750-kilowatt wind turbine to power tribal facilities in South Dakota. There are also plans to couple project construction, operation and monitoring with other Tribal educational opportunities offered through Sinte Gleska University. These opportunities aim to increase employment and boost economic development.

Another Native American-affiliated partnership - the Indian Pueblo Cultural Center (IPCC) - has been awarded a contract in the amount of \$86,300.00 to erect a 10,000 watt photovoltaic carport. Dave Melton - a tribal member of Laguna Pueblo Tribe, main contact for the IPCC partnership, and President of

Diversified Systems Manufacturing - will develop the largest commercial PV array in the state, to be erected in the South parking lot of the IPCC at 2401 12th St., NW, Albuquerque, New Mexico. The solar carport will be tied to the Public Service Company of New Mexico (PNM) electric utility grid and reduce the load on it by producing approximately 23 megawatts/hours of clean electricity annually.

The purpose of the solar project is to expose the public to the benefits of renewable energy including economic development, cost reduction of the IPCC energy bill and greenhouse gas reduction. With over 400,000 visitors a year to the Cultural Center, the PV carport will be available for all to see. The project also supports the Department of Energy's (DOE) Million Solar Roofs program that seeks to place solar energy devices on one million roofs by the year 2010.

Mr. Melton was also recently awarded a \$238,221 project, with a 20-percent cost share, to install and monitor a hybrid photovoltaic/wind/solar hot water system for remote power to the Laguna Majors Ranch in New Mexico.

"We see both energy efficiency and renewable energy as two powerful ways in which communities not blessed with oil, gas, coal, uranium or other such fuel resources can participate substantially and profitably in the energy economy ... and this goes for Indian and non-Indian communities! We also see where the Tribes on the Great Plains can play a major leadership role -- in partnership with the federal government -- in promoting and developing energy efficiency and renewable energy, particularly wind energy." Said Bob Gough, Counsel for the Rosebud Tribe and ICoup Secretary.

### **New York, New York!**

Rebuild New York's Communities will be an umbrella partnership of various local partnerships, such as Rebuild Niagara Frontier. Led and managed by New York State Energy, Research and Development Association (NYSERDA) under its Residential Energy Affordability Program, the Partnership plans to target Buffalo as the first local partnership. Rebuild New York's Communities Partnership met with representatives from the Buffalo mayor's office and county commissioners on July 27 to discuss partnership implementation and developed a list of stakeholders and an initial list of communities needs. The overall NY Partnership has targeted mid-August as the launch date for the Rebuild Buffalo Partnership.

The Rebuild New York's Communities Partnership will participate in the New York State fair on August 26-September 7, 1999. Rebuild America will be represented by an information booth with NYSERDA staff on hand to answer any questions and collect information from individuals interested in learning more about Rebuild America. Approximately 972,000 people attended last year's State Fair.

### **Rebuild America Sponsors Energy Training**

Rebuild America sponsored an energy training session at The National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials (NAHRO) 1999 Summer Conference. The session, entitled "Energy Management: Bottom Line Issues for Your Agency," discussed energy-related issues confronting public housing authorities and presented examples of how housing authorities have successfully implemented programs to address these concerns. Rebuild America's Rebuild Ohio (Starke Metropolitan Housing Authority) and Chicago Housing Authority partnerships were featured during the presentations. A similar session will be presented at NAHRO's 1999 National Conference in Philadelphia on October 17-20.

## **Activating Young Minds with Energy Education**

On September 29, 1999, Rebuild Little Rock will host a breakfast ceremony to announce their new citywide initiative to introduce energy education into the school system. The **Rebuild Arkansas** and **Rebuild Little Rock** partnerships have collaborated with one of Rebuild Little Rock's partners, the Little Rock School District, on developing an energy education curriculum as part of the new freshman "Active Physics" class. This class will be offered at all 5 high schools and potentially reach 1,500 students each year. With help from the Rebuild America program, the course will engage local businesses, utilities, academia, architects, engineers, contractors, suppliers, and others to bring "real world" examples and experiences into the classroom for the benefit of both students and the community.



Historic Little Rock Central High School

## **Rebuild New Hampshire— Helping School Districts Procure Low-energy, Sustainable Design Services**

**Rebuild New Hampshire** representatives met with the New Hampshire Department of Education to discuss implementing technical revisions to the "Manual for Planning and Construction of School Buildings." The New Hampshire Department of Education is revising the energy-related portions of the manual in order to help school districts procure low-energy, sustainable design services. The August 26th meeting was the first in a series of topics to be covered including: identifying available resources; identifying interested participants and goals; and establishing a time-line for implementation. In attendance were representatives from the following organizations: Governor's Office of Energy and Community Services; Energy Smart Schools; and the Sustainable Buildings Industry Council (formerly Passive Solar Industries Council).

## **Seattle Region Signs on New Partner**

John J. Fleming has signed on the dotted line for the Seattle Region's newest partnership - **Nevada Center for Vocational Education & Research Corporation (NCVER)**. This non-profit agency plans to work with the Western Nevada Community College to establish a hands-on training program for vocational education at the Stewart Center, one of several historic buildings in the area.

State Senator Lawrence E. Jacobsen from Nevada fully supports the use of these historic buildings, as expressed in a letter to Mr. Fleming, President of NCVER. The Stewart Center was originally built as a school for Native American students, but has been vacant for 12 years. The adaptive use of the building represents not only basic structural rehabilitation challenges, but also historic preservation and energy efficiency challenges. Paul Normandie, Rebuild Nevada Program Representative, was instrumental in forming this latest partnership.

## **Upcoming Summit with Rebuild America Business Partners**

A Rebuild America Business Partner Summit will be held on December 2, 1999 at the PG&E Pacific Energy Center in San Francisco, CA. Charter Business Partners will convene for the first time at the Pacific Energy Center to discuss how they will provide local resources to existing Rebuild America partnerships. Topics such as technology, product acquisition, financing options, and educational services will be the focus. For more information contact Doug Avery, Rebuild America Program Representative, at 310-798-6927.

## **Power in Numbers!**

**Maine Power Options** has just signed with Rebuild America as a new partnership. Maine Power Options is a not-for-profit membership organization that was established to provide members with aggregated electricity. As a Rebuild America partnership Maine Power Options will facilitate energy efficiency programs for its members. The organization has 124 member organizations in a variety of market sectors such as healthcare, higher education, non-profit, cultural, municipal government agencies, and regional schools. For more information contact Doug Baston at (207) 882-7221 or e-mail at [dcbaston@aol.com](mailto:dcbaston@aol.com)

## **Rebuild America Takes Flight!**

The **Southern Illinois Airport Authority** has just signed on as the first airport partnership within Rebuild America. The airport authority joins Southern Sustainability, a Rebuild Partnership in Illinois. The Southern Illinois Airport Authority will develop a long-range energy efficiency program to be implemented over the next ten years. In addition, mechanical engineering students from Southern Illinois University will perform energy audits on buildings that have been identified for possible retrofits. The students will perform the energy audits under the guidance of Manohar Kulkarni, PE, Ph.D, Associate Professor and Energy Management and Resource Center Program Director of Southern Illinois University. Preliminary observations have indicated that the Terminal building may undergo lighting and heating retrofits. For more information please contact Geri Perrotte at (312) 886-8597 or e-mail at [geri.perrotte@hq.doe.gov](mailto:geri.perrotte@hq.doe.gov)

## **Regional Energy Office Leads the Way in San Diego**

The **San Diego Regional Energy Office**, since becoming a Rebuild America Partnership in December 1998, has grown to a staff of 4 and leveraged approximately half a million dollars from their California SEP start-up money of \$51,000. The Office has initiated energy programs in:

- Alternative fuel vehicle transportation and infrastructure
- Resource efficient redevelopment planning and implementation (PLACE3S)
- Energy efficient new and existing buildings in local government
- Climate-wise plans for Industrial partners that will save 5.2 million kilowatt-hours per year and \$415,000 dollars per year. They have also promoted California Energy Commission school district and local government programs; developed a Million Solar Roofs partnership, with links to the Energy Commission's renewable resources (photovoltaic and other) buy-down program, and administered small grants for an energy research program funded by the California Energy Commission.



Doug Avery, Rebuild America Program Representative receives a traditional Lakota Sioux Star quilt in 1998 for his work with the Native Americans.

## **Rebuild America to Present at Native American Meeting**

The **Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians** are meeting in Pocatello, Idaho, from September 27-30, 1999. Rebuild America representatives, Bob Gough, Rosebud Sioux Counsel; and Doug Avery, Rebuild America Program Representative; will address the assemblage on the following topics: the developing interest from a number of individual tribes about the Rebuild America program; the existing tribal resolutions and community plans for Rebuild; plans for follow-up meetings with individual tribes; and the possibility of a formal resolution from ATNI encouraging its member tribes to participate in Rebuild America.

## **New York Holds Building Commissioning Seminar**

NYSERDA, the Association of State Energy Research and Technology Transfer Institutions, and DOE Boston Regional Office will host a building-commissioning seminar on September 14, 1999 in Tarrytown, NY at the Westchester Marriott and on September 15, 1999 in Albany NY at the Italian American Community Center. The focus will be "How to Achieve Top Performance in Your Buildings". The event is designed to cater to the needs of building owners, facility managers, architects, engineers, mechanical contractors and general contractors. Registrations to attend must be received by September 7, 1999. The conference fee is \$50 and includes lunch & refreshments. To receive a full seminar brochure and registration form, or for further information about the conference, contact Mark R. Watson at NYSERDA: 518-862-1090, ext. 3314, fax: 518-862-1091, e-mail: [mw1@nysesda.org](mailto:mw1@nysesda.org), [www.nysesda.org](http://www.nysesda.org)

## **Financing Renewable Energy Projects On Indian Reservations**

The Intertribal Council On Utility Policy (ICOUP) is planning an energy workshop for tribal representatives interested in electricity restructuring and renewable energy development. The workshop will include a full day presentation on tax exempt financing of renewable energy projects. The workshop is scheduled for Oct 13th and 14th at the Lower Sioux Indian Reservation, Morton, MN.

ICOUP is holding this 2-day meeting just before the High Plains Sustainable Energy for Economic Development (HPSEED) Steering Committee meeting set for October 15th. The tentative site is the Lower Sioux Indian Reservation at Morton Minnesota, in order to highlight the Tribe's new wind turbine demonstration project. For more information, contact Bob Gough, Secretary of ICOUP and Rebuild America Representative, at [rpwgough@aol.com](mailto:rpwgough@aol.com) or at 715-426-1415.

## **Financing & Performance Contracting Workshops**

Two Rebuild America workshops on municipal financing options will take place in October. Both workshops will cover the financing of energy efficiency projects, but the Connecticut workshop will emphasize performance contracting.

- October 5th 1999, Crowne Plaza, Warwick, Rhode Island (RI), sponsored by the RI Energy Office
- October 6th, 1999, United Illuminating Electric Service Work Center, Shelton, Connecticut., co-sponsored by the CT Office of Policy and Management and United Illuminating

Contact John Ruckes at (860) 418-6384 to get more information for the Connecticut Workshop and Pat Condon at (401) 222-6920 for information about the Rhode Island Workshop.

## **Building Commissioning**

A "Building Commissioning: How to Achieve Peak Performance in Your Buildings" seminar, co-sponsored by Rebuild Connecticut and the University of Massachusetts will take place at the Sturbridge Host Hotel & Conference Center in Sturbridge, MA on October 22, 1999.

Building commissioning is a systematic approach used in both new and renovated buildings to ensure that every aspect of the building is properly integrated to provide peak performance. By verifying proper installation, functioning, operation and maintenance of equipment, the commissioning process guarantees that over time, efficiency measures continue to deliver the expected savings. Contact John Ruckes at (860) 418-6384 or Dragan Curcija at (413) 545-4454 for registration information.

**Tell Us More:**

Let your colleagues know what you are up to by submitting material for the Rebuild America Flash Report. It's easy - e-mail Alex Zartman at [alexz@drintl.com](mailto:alexz@drintl.com). No story is too big or too small! We'll write it up and shoot it out to over 300 individuals who want to hear what's new and innovative in Rebuild America communities at work.

Hope to hear from you soon!