

Seventeen Nebraska recipients have been selected to receive \$224,591 in grants. Funds will be used to install renewable energy systems and make energy efficiency improvements that will promote energy conservation.

“These energy dollars will help make needed energy conservation improvements and install new renewable energy systems,” said Nebraska State Director Maxine Moul, USDA Rural Development. “Through these projects, energy consumption will be reduced, thereby making more dollars available to be kept within rural Nebraska there by assisting the state’s rural economy.”

The funding was made available through the Rural Energy for America Program (REAP). This program provides opportunities for farmers and rural small business owners to install renewable energy systems and make energy efficiency improvements, as well as explore the feasibility of implementing renewable energy projects.

Detailed below by county are the energy projects selected from the National Office reserve allocation of funding. Funding is contingent upon the recipient meeting the conditions of the grant agreements.

Antelope: Filkins, Lerwyn–Creighton- \$3,997 grant-Diesel irrigation engine conversion.

Hoke, Clayton-Ewing-\$11,048 grant-Diesel irrigation engine conversion with well re-bowl.

Kester Bros, Inc.-Clearwater-\$6,595 grant-Diesel engine conversion with variable frequency drive. Knuth, Claus-Royal-\$4,118 grant-Diesel irrigation engine conversion.

Dakota: Jackson Express, Inc.-Jackson-\$89,747 grant-Installation of four flexible fuel pumps and tanks.

Harlan: Dunse, Brent-Alma-\$2,626 grant-Diesel irrigation to electric motor conversion and associated underground wiring.

Keith: McBride, Jeffrey-Ogallala-\$4,423 grant-Diesel irrigation engine to electric motor conversion. McBride, Joe-Brule-\$4,652 grant-Diesel irrigation engine to electric motor conversion.

Lincoln: Friesen Farms, Inc-Wallace-\$9,350 grant-Two diesel irrigation engines to electric motor conversions. Sheets, Clint-Wallace-\$12,400 grant-Two diesel irrigation engines to electric motor conversions.

Logan: Halstead Land & Cattle, Inc.-Arnold-\$13,464 grant-Installation of a small wind turbine.

Madison: Unkel, Orand-Madison-\$4,625 grant-Diesel irrigation engine conversion.

Merrick: Retzlaff, Douglas-Palmer-\$4,250 grant-Diesel irrigation engine conversion.

Perkins: Lee, Russell-Madrid-\$6,877 grant-Diesel irrigation engine to electric motor conversion.

Polk: MCGFF, LLC-Osceola-\$19,750 grant-Installation of a small wind turbine.

Saunders: Benes Service, Inc.–Valparaiso-\$19,750 grant-Installation of a small wind turbine.

Sherman: Schultz, Marion-Litchfield-\$6,919 grant-Towline to pivot irrigation system and associated underground pipe.