



**OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
NEVADA STATE OFFICE OF ENERGY**

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Contact: Sean Sever  
Energy Outreach Coordinator  
Phone: 775-687-1850

## **Energy Projects Have a Huge Impact in Small Nevada Towns**

Like many American cities, the budgets of some of the small towns across Nevada are suffering. This can result in popular city programs being cut, parks and recreational facilities open shorter hours or even closed, and employees losing their jobs or getting their hours reduced. The Nevada State Office of Energy (NSOE) has offered help through their Energy Efficiency and Community Block Grant (EECBG) Program. New renewable energy or energy efficiency projects are taking shape through this initiative that will save Nevada cities and counties a great deal on energy costs resulting in improved bottom lines.

"The new energy projects in Lovelock would have never happened if it wasn't for this program," City of Lovelock City Clerk/Treasurer Lisa Booth said. "We had no heating or cooling in our dog pound, our traffic signals and street lights throughout town were old, and we have bad wiring and inefficient water heating in our firehouse. We'll be able to save a lot of money on our energy bills."

Two high efficiency furnaces and a cooling system were added to the Lovelock Dog Pound and energy efficient windows will soon be installed. City Hall will receive two new high efficiency furnaces and new energy efficient lighting and windows and the Fire House will get a new HVAC system, water heater, new lighting, and electrical wiring. Lovelock residents have also noticed the newly-installed LED traffic signals, street lights and pedestrian crossing lights around town.

"People love the bright new lights, especially the handicapped citizens who appreciate having timed countdown crossing lights when they cross the street," Booth added.

Winnemucca will be able to solve a unique problem with their sagging, energy inefficient carriage-style street lights. With the EECBG grant, the city plans to improve the bracing and replace the 195 high-pressure sodium light fixtures with LEDs, resulting in \$40,000 a year in savings. They will also replace five traffic signal systems with LEDs.

"This program was really the only avenue we had," Winnemucca City Manager Steve West said. "Our citizens wanted to keep the lights because of their unique style and the bracing needed to be fixed. We are elated with the project."

West Wendover was able to install a new 50 kilowatt solar photovoltaic (PV) unit to their city hall and hopes to add another one identical in size with the funding. The first system will save them 25-30 percent in energy costs and the second one will double that amount. They also added some much-needed sidewalks connecting City Hall to the rest of town, including walkways to the Wendover Will and Victory Highway monuments.

The firehouse in Ely is receiving most of the benefits from their allocation. A 41-kilowatt solar thermal system and a 24-kilowatt PV solar array will soon be complete. The solar thermal system is expected to provide a 99.8 percent offset of their hot water heating costs and roughly half of their overall propane usage at the firehouse. The solar PV will save the city approximately 62 percent of the firehouse's electricity costs. Ely is also replacing hundreds of traffic signals and street lights around their town with LED lights that use up to 90 percent less power.

Eureka cut their power bill in half at their County Road Shop, 7760 kilowatt hours in February to 4000 in March, by replacing a water heater, doors, windows, insulation, lighting and a HVAC system with their EECBG grant.

With their money, Carlin added a 25.5-kilowatt solar PV system to their senior center; new lighting in their Public Works shop, police station and city hall; and solar panels to power their sewer lift and pump stations.

Learn more about the EECBG Program and the NSOE at [www.energy.nv.gov](http://www.energy.nv.gov).



Photo cutline: The new 100-foot-wide, 200-foot-long, two-tier solar PV system at West Wendover City Hall is expected to produce approximately 185,000 kilowatt hours per year and save the city thousands of dollars in energy costs.

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