

# THE INSIDE STORY



## Countywide Energy Efficiency & Conservation Program

In June 2009, County Executive Dan Onorato announced a countywide energy efficiency and conservation program using \$8.1 million in federal stimulus funding. The effort includes a partnership with Duquesne Light to conduct energy audits of municipal buildings in the County, as well as energy-saving upgrades to County-owned and municipal facilities.

The effort will result in significant energy conservation projects in local government facilities throughout Allegheny County, which will translate into savings for taxpayers and jobs for local workers.

Allegheny County will provide \$300,000 to audit energy usage in municipal buildings, including lighting systems, heating and air conditioning, computer systems, and overall thermal envelope. Once the audits are completed in the fourth quarter of the year, Duquesne Light will analyze the results for each municipal building and recommend projects to reduce energy demand and consumption, such as upgraded lighting, room occupancy sensors, insulation and other weatherization activities.

The County will provide grants totaling \$2 million to fund the municipal upgrades. Grant eligibility will be based on the percentage of low- and moderate-income population in each municipality. Thirty-seven boroughs and townships will be eligible for grants covering 100 percent of upgrade costs, 62 municipalities will be eligible for grants covering 75 percent of costs, and 27 will be eligible for grants covering 50 percent of costs.

Duquesne Light will assist the County in monitoring construction activity, contractor compliance, and quantifiable energy savings.

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