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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**E&E ANNOUNCES ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND CONSERVATION BLOCK GRANT
AWARDS TO SMALL CITIES AND COUNTIES**

NORTH LITTLE ROCK, Ark. — The Arkansas Department of Energy and Environment (E&E), Energy Office, announced recipients of the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) program for small cities and counties today totaling over \$1.7 million. This funding will support 15 vital energy efficiency and conservation projects across Arkansas, helping communities reduce energy consumption, lower costs, and advance energy efficient practices.

The EECBG program provides federal funding from the U.S. Department of Energy to local governments to develop, implement, and manage energy efficiency and conservation projects. These awards underscore Arkansas' commitment to fostering energy independence and environmental stewardship at the local level.

"We are thrilled to partner with these 14 Arkansas communities to implement projects that will deliver tangible benefits, from cost savings to a healthier environment," said Mitchell Simpson, deputy director, Energy Office. "These grants empower our small cities and counties to lead the way in energy innovation and build a more efficient future for all Arkansans."

A complete list of projects and their scope of work is attached and includes the following cities:

- Searcy
- Earle
- Charleston
- Parkin (2 projects)
- Des Arc
- Etowah
- Forrest City
- Keo
- Ward
- Wilmot
- Bay
- Russellville



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- Truman
- Wilmot

These projects represent a diverse range of energy efficiency initiatives, including workforce training, energy audits, energy efficiency retrofits, and the construction of a public walking and biking path. Each project was carefully selected based on its potential for significant energy savings, environmental impact, and community benefit.

E&E's Energy Office is dedicated to promoting energy efficiency and strategies that encourage economic development, energy security, and the wellbeing of Arkansas' businesses, communities, and citizens. Learn more at www.adeq.state.ar.us/energy/initiatives/eecbg.aspx.

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No.	City	Activity Area	Project Title	Budget	Project Scope/Work
1	171	Searcy	Lights - EE Retrofits	178,867	Searcy proposes to retrofit 12 city buildings and one sports field with LED lighting to reduce energy use and reduce utility costs across the portfolio.
2	197	Earle	EE Retrofits	125,000	Earle proposes to carry out a comprehensive retrofit of their City Hall including LED lighting, HVAC, and building envelope to improve building efficiency.
3	189	Charleston	Lights - EE Retrofits	63,963	Charleston proposes to retrofit metal halide sports field lighting with LED lights at the municipal ball field complex.
4	200	Parkin	EE Retrofits	76,000	Parkin proposes to upgrade HVAC, lighting, and plumbing systems at City Hall to improve building energy efficiency.
5	168	Des Arc	EE Retrofits	200,000	Des Arc proposes to replace aging HVAC units and windows at the community center to improve energy efficiency and quality of life for visitors.
6	186	Etowah	EE Retrofits	56,870	Etowah proposes to retrofit outdated HVAC equipment at City Hall and City Fire Station to increase energy efficiency and reduce utility costs.
7	164	Forrest City	Lights - EE Retrofits	200,000	Forrest City proposes an LED retrofit of ramp lighting at two I40 interchanges to increase safety and energy efficiency.
8	198	Keo	EE Retrofits	15,789	Keo proposes to upgrade HVAC systems and install new LED lighting at Keo City Hall to improve energy efficiency and reduce utility costs.
9	180	Ward	EE Retrofits	200,000	Ward proposes to replace outdated HVAC units at key public buildings with higher-efficiency models to reduce utility costs.
10	203	Wilmot	Audit	38,000	Wilmot proposes to conduct professional energy audits of municipal buildings, public lighting, and community facilities to identify opportunities to increase energy efficiency across city government.
11	202	Parkin	Workforce	16,980	Parkin Also proposes to launch a workforce development initiative to provide municipal staff with HVACR, electrical, and plumbing upskilling to maintain upgraded equipment in city buildings.
11	175	Bay	Audit	10,000	Bay proposes to conduct professional energy audits of municipal buildings, public lighting, and community facilities to identify opportunities to increase energy efficiency across city government.
12	183	Russellville	3. Transportation/ Micro	200,000.00	Russellville will construct a public micromobility path connecting two existing lengths of its city-wide biking and walking network.
	190	Truman	2. Energy Eff. Retrofits	200,000.00	Truman proposes to perform and LED retrofit at two existing sports fields as part of a larger city-wide LED retrofit initiative.
	201	Wilmot	2. Energy Eff. Retrofits	125,000.00	Wilmot will build on the energy audit to carry out an LED retrofit across several city-owned parks, recreation areas, and main street.
	Total				1,706,469