



**County of McHenry
County Administration**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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McHenry County hosts Representatives from the Department of Energy

WOODSTOCK, IL – McHenry County recently hosted two members from the Department of Energy on Tuesday, January 12 to display its usage of the monies awarded from the American Recovery/Reinvestment Act (ARRA). The County received \$950,700 of the \$2,475,900 it was awarded through the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block (EECBG) Grant in monies to finance its efforts to make McHenry County facilities more energy efficient.

McHenry County Board Chairman Ken Koehler stated, “This is an excellent opportunity for the County to tap into federal stimulus funds. First, it allows us install cutting edge technology to reduce our energy costs. Secondly, we are able to lead the way in demonstrating environmentally sensitive solutions for energy needs.”

The County partnered with Siemens Industry, Inc.; Building Technologies to assist in development and engineering of energy efficiency projects. The projects will include solar photovoltaic, Solar wall, LED lighting, boiler upgrades, high-efficiency motor replacement, retro-commissioning of the McHenry County Government Center and an education component to track and display renewable energy production.

The annual cost savings for the projects are estimated to be \$118,000 and will reduce the County’s carbon footprint by 1,655,888 lbs of carbon dioxide; the equivalent of 5.2 acres of forest preserved, 3.9 railcars of coal, and 137.6 cars driven for a year. Additionally, the energy conservation measures will have a significant impact on the County’s utility spend and enable the County to continue to be a leader in sustainability.

For more information, please contact Adam Lehmann at (815)334-0309 or aflehmann@co.mchenry.il.us.

EECBG Goals:

1. *Reduce fossil fuel emissions*
 2. *Reduce total energy use*
 3. *Improve energy efficiency in the building, transportation, and other appropriate sectors,*
 4. *Spur economic growth and create/retain jobs locally*
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County Project Stats:

Funding: \$2,475,900

Energy Savings

kWh: 743,916

Therms: 14,805

Carbon dioxide Reduction:

1,655,888 lbs

Job Retention: 24.65

Job Creation: 1.35

Average Contract Award:

\$130,853

Local Vendors: 9



Left to Right: County Board member Sue Draffkorn; John Hadley, Director of Facilities; County Board Chairman Ken Koehler; Jonathan Aardsma, Siemens; Ryan Kabat, Siemens

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“McHenry County government is dedicated to providing the highest quality services for the health, safety, and welfare of the County’s residents and communities. We foster representative and transparent government to ensure social, economic and environmental justice.”