

# SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

## Department of Energy

### Energy Audits

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To: Ways and Means Full Committee  
From: Natural Resources Subcommittee  
Carrier: Representative Owens

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On January 28th, the Natural Resources Subcommittee heard a request from the Oregon Department of Energy for approval to submit a federal grant application.

This grant opportunity through the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Rural Energy for America Program, supports agricultural producers and rural small businesses in completing energy audits. The Oregon Department of Energy first received a grant under this program in 2021. Prior grant funding has supported 13 energy audits, with two businesses able to receive additional grant funding to implement the energy audit suggestions resulting in better energy efficiency and lower operating costs.

There is no state match requirement, but program participants are required to provide a 25% match of audit costs. The Department has partnered with Energy Trust Oregon to cover the match for participants in their service territory.

The Natural Resources Subcommittee recommends approval of the submission of a federal grant application by the Oregon Department of Energy, to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, in the amount of \$100,000, for energy audits for agricultural producers and rural small businesses.

