

# Environmental and Utilities Update

 **ROBINSON & COLE**  
ATTORNEYS AT LAW

Attorney Advertising



OCTOBER 2009

## New Renewable Energy Incentive Program for Connecticut

Connecticut continues to develop new incentive programs for projects utilizing renewable energy technologies. The Connecticut Clean Energy Fund (CCEF) recently introduced a new grant program for solar thermal projects that complement the grant programs currently in place for other clean energy technologies.

### What is Solar Thermal Technology?

Solar thermal technology uses sunlight to generate heat. A solar thermal system utilizes solar panels that collect sunlight, which heats liquid that travels through piping from the collectors to a heat exchanger, which generates hot water or warmed air. Generally, solar thermal systems are less complex than other types of renewable energy systems.

### Program Eligibility

The solar thermal incentive program is open to all Connecticut businesses, state and municipal governments, organizations, or homeowners who wish to install solar domestic hot water heating systems. Incentives are available for both new construction and retrofits, and developers may apply for multiple residential dwellings. Users of any type of existing domestic hot water heat (e.g., electric, natural gas, oil, propane) are eligible. Solar hot water systems for space heating or pool heating are *not* eligible for incentives.

For commercial projects, either the site owner or the contractor/installer can apply for the grant; however, the contractor/installer must be the applicant for residential projects. Accordingly, certain eligibility requirements, as well as certain project qualifications, apply for contractors/installers and the equipment to be installed.

### Incentive Amounts

Grants are awarded on a *first-come, first-served* basis, and the amount of grant awarded is based on system output. Incentive amounts vary for nonresidential (for-profit commercial, not-for-profit, and governmental) projects and residential installations and depend on the predicted system output for October through March. Per-installation incentive amounts range from \$500 per MMBtu to \$900 per MMBtu, and maximum nonresidential incentive amounts range from \$50,000 to \$82,500.

CCEF also administers other clean energy grant programs for photovoltaic (PV), biomass, wind, fuel cell, hydro, and wave/tidal power projects and received additional ARRA funds for the fuel cell and PV programs. In addition, CCEF is planning to introduce a new grant program for projects utilizing ground source heat pump (geothermal) technology.

---

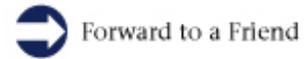
For more information about these new programs, or for other questions regarding renewable or clean energy projects and incentives, please contact one of the following attorneys:

Metro NY: John A. Poakeart, (203) 462-7524, [jpoakeart@rc.com](mailto:jpoakeart@rc.com)

Hartford: Joey Lee Miranda, (860) 275-8227, [jmiranda@rc.com](mailto:jmiranda@rc.com)

Hartford: Earl W. Phillips, Jr., (860) 275-8220, [ephillips@rc.com](mailto:ephillips@rc.com)

The information in this legal update should not be considered legal advice. Consult your attorney before acting on anything contained n.



*© 2009 Robinson & Cole LLP. All rights reserved. No part of this document may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording, or otherwise, without prior written permission. This document should not be considered legal advice and does not create an attorney-client relationship between Robinson & Cole LLP and you. Consult your attorney before acting on anything contained n.*

This email was sent to: [archive@rc.com](mailto:archive@rc.com)

This email was sent by: Robinson & Cole LLP  
280 Trumbull Street Hartford, CT 06103 Attn: Business Development and Marketing



We respect your right to privacy - [view our policy](#)