

Raimondo Announces Municipal LED Streetlight Energy Efficiency Incentives

*Office of Energy Resources to Administer Funds as part of
“Lead by Example” Initiative*

Providence, R.I. – In celebration of Earth Day, Governor Gina M. Raimondo today announced the availability of \$525,000 in financial incentives for qualified municipalities seeking to reduce their energy consumption and costs through the installation of light-emitting diode (LED) streetlights and control technologies. Funds will be made administered by the Rhode Island Office of Energy Resources (OER) consistent with the state’s *2014 Plan for the Allocation and Distribution of Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative Auction Proceeds*.

“Municipal investment in robust energy efficiency projects can significantly reduce energy consumption and costs, providing budgetary relief for local governments and their taxpayers,” Governor Raimondo said. “These projects also support local economic and job growth opportunities, while helping to reduce our collective carbon footprint. I applaud the OER for recognizing municipal first-movers and early adopters through this incentive offering. Along with new and innovative programs, such as my proposed Rhode Island Infrastructure Bank, my Administration is committed to helping reduce energy costs across government and putting Rhode Islanders back to work.”

OER will make funds available through enhanced incentives to qualified municipalities on a first-come, first-serve basis, contingent on the availability of funding. These enhanced incentives are being offered in addition to any applicable National Grid-administered incentives and represents a unique project cost savings opportunity for first-movers and early adopters. Conversions from traditional high-pressure sodium (HPS) lights to more efficient LEDs have the potential to reduce energy consumption and costs by approximately 40 to 60 percent.

“Rhode Island is a national leader in energy efficiency innovation and, in collaboration with our stakeholder partners, the Office of Energy Resources continues to find ways to reduce our state’s energy footprint and achieve measurable consumer cost savings,” said Commissioner Marion Gold. “This exciting incentive offering is consistent with our on-going efforts to target energy cost reductions throughout state and municipal governments, while advancing important clean energy and environmental goals.”

Through this opportunity, municipalities that have acquired their lighting equipment and plan to retrofit their existing streetlights to more energy efficient LED technologies can apply to receive \$0.40 per watt reduced for qualified LED fixtures and \$20 for each remotely-programmable dimming control installed (as applicable). A qualified municipality can receive a total award of up to \$105,000 in addition to any available National Grid-administered incentives.

Incentives offered through this program will be made on a first-come, first-serve basis, and is contingent on funding availability. OER reserves the right to accept, reject, or request modifications to any application for reasons including, but not limited to, availability of funding and/or failure to meet all eligibility and other program criteria.

For more information on the Lead By Example Initiative, please contact George Sfinarolakis at (401) 574-9101 or George.Sfinarolakis@energy.ri.gov.