

## **NACo Conference Call with USDA on ARRA Implementation**

We invite you to participate in our weekly conference call on Recovery Act implementation this Friday, May 15, at 12:00 p.m. Eastern time. The primary topic on the agenda this week is a conversation with the U.S. Department of Agriculture regarding its role and approach to Recovery Act funding. We will be joined by a representative of Secretary Vilsack. Please bring your questions and concerns to discuss with USDA.

Also, we expect to provide an update on new ARRA guidance on allowable state administrative costs and the methodology for counting jobs created and retained, both due out from the White House Office of Management and Budget this week. See [http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/assets/memoranda\\_fy2009/m09-18.pdf](http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/assets/memoranda_fy2009/m09-18.pdf) for the administrative costs guidance, which was released yesterday, May 11.

In order to manage the large number of participants, we will continue to use our new Internet-based webinar software to host these calls. To participate, you must register in advance at this site:  
<https://www2.gotomeeting.com/register/849166387>

Once you register, you will receive an e-mail confirmation with directions for logging in to the conference call. You will need to login to the call on a computer, and then either call in through a telephone (following the instructions on the webinar control panel, which provides a phone number and access codes) or use VoIP on your computer. We strongly recommend calling in on a telephone unless you have a microphone on your computer; most people do not have a microphone.

If you have registered for these conference calls previously, you do not need to register again. You will receive an automatic reminder from us with login information.

To recap last Friday's call, please see the attached notes that summarize discussions underway regarding the data collection and reporting requirements under ARRA.

For more information about the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) program, we recommend that you visit <http://www.eecbg.energy.gov/> and go to the Solution Center. You will see in the Solutions Center section of the website that the Department of Energy is launching a webcast series this week on EECBG. For counties, there will be a webcast this Friday, May 15, at 1:30 p.m. Eastern time on Planning and Strategy Development. This is especially important since many counties are asking questions about what goes into the strategy. There will also be weekly webcasts starting on Wednesday, May 20, at 3:00 p.m. Eastern to discuss the application process. If you would like to receive further EECBG updates or assistance from NACo, please contact Kelly Zonderwyk, Program Manager, at [kzonderwyk@naco.org](mailto:kzonderwyk@naco.org) or (202) 942-4224.

Thank you in advance for your time and participation in these weekly conference calls. We welcome your ideas and feedback. As a reminder, we will not meet next Friday, May 22, due to the NACo Western Interstate Region Conference.

Please feel free to contact Emily Landsman at [elandsman@naco.org](mailto:elandsman@naco.org) or (202) 942-4242 or me with any questions.

Stephanie Osborn  
Deputy Director, County Services  
National Association of Counties  
(202) 942-4235