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## **Federal Funds Bring Energy Savings to Placer County Placer County, Auburn, & Loomis Complete Efficiency Upgrades**

Placer County is saving money and reducing energy use thanks to federal stimulus funds.

The county installed new energy efficient lights at several county-owned buildings. More than 2,700 interior lighting fixtures were replaced with energy-saving fluorescent bulbs and ballasts. Lighting occupancy sensors were installed to turn off lights when offices are not in use.

In addition, more than 30 energy efficient building mechanical units were installed. These units included split and packaged heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC) systems, boilers, and chillers.

The project completed last year with a \$591,000 grant, is expected to save Placer County 686,761 kilowatt hours (kWh) or nearly \$100,000 in energy costs and reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 274 tons annually.

The city of Auburn and the town of Loomis, located in Placer County, also received grants to boost energy efficiency.

Auburn officials installed a new HVAC unit at City Hall and retrofitted 70 streetlights to light-emitting diodes (LED) technology. The project was paid for by a \$72,400 grant. Auburn is expected to save 47,655 kWh or \$6,300 in annual energy savings and reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 33,000 pounds each year.

Loomis retrofitted streetlights with a \$31,800 grant. More than 50 town-owned streetlights along Taylor Road and in the Loomis multi-modal parking facility were replaced with induction technology. The project is expected to save Loomis 30,000 kWh or \$3,658 in energy costs and reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 21,000 pounds annually.

Administered by the California Energy Commission, these federal grants contribute to the energy efficiency goals of small cities and counties. They are providing more than \$32 million to more than 270 eligible localities throughout California. Large cities and counties are receiving funding directly from the U.S. Department of Energy.

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The California Energy Commission is the state's primary energy policy and planning agency. Created by the Legislature in 1974 and located in Sacramento, six basic responsibilities guide the Energy Commission as it sets state energy policy: forecasting future energy needs; licensing thermal power plants 50 megawatts or larger; promoting energy efficiency and conservation by setting the state's appliance and building efficiency standards; supporting public interest energy research that advances energy science and technology through research, development, and demonstration programs; developing renewable energy resources and alternative renewable energy technologies for buildings, industry and transportation; planning for and directing state response to energy emergencies.



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