

# Energy Loans, Grants Still Available for Tornado Victims

## October 1 deadline for ReBuild Western Massachusetts Registration

BOSTON— August 22, 2012 – ReBuild Western Massachusetts officials are urging owners of homes and businesses damaged by last summer's tornadoes to take advantage of its program, which provides loans and grants to building owners for energy efficient upgrades. The deadline to register is October 1, 2012.

Since its launch last fall, the ReBuild Western Massachusetts program, funded by the Massachusetts Department of Energy Resources (DOER) and administered by the Massachusetts Clean Energy Center (MassCEC), has helped dozens of homeowners and businesses obtain grants and/or zero interest loans to repair, renovate or rebuild using smart energy approaches.

"This program demonstrates the Patrick-Murray Administration's continued commitment to help these communities rebuild," said Secretary of Energy and Environmental Affairs Rick Sullivan. "We hope more homeowners and business owners take advantage of this great program to make their properties more energy efficient, saving them money in the long run and increasing their comfort."

Eligible property owners in Hampden and Worcester Counties may apply for loans or grants to fund attic, wall, and basement insulation; high efficiency heating and hot water systems; Energy Star® replacement windows and doors; and solar electric and solar hot water systems.

"Without the loan, I couldn't have done the things we did to bring the house up to the highest energy rating," said Springfield resident Armando Feliciano, who received a \$20,000 zero percent loan through Hampden Bank to rebuild his home that was destroyed by the June 1 tornado.

"This program is a continuation of our commitment to the Western Massachusetts communities affected by the June 1 tornadoes," said DOER Commissioner Mark Sylvia. "Helping people rebuild their homes and businesses using energy efficient methods cuts energy costs, saves people money, and creates local jobs."

"Communities that invest in energy efficiency cut long-term energy costs while creating local jobs," said MassCEC CEO and Executive Director Alicia Barton McDevitt. "This recovery is not just about rebuilding what there was before but using the opportunity to construct something better that uses less energy and saves money."

Property owners who suffered storm damage have until October 1, 2012 to contact the program and begin the application process. The building improvements need to be complete by December 31, 2012 and final completed application, receipts and invoices must be submitted no later than January 31, 2013.

Participants are eligible to apply if an insurance company, FEMA or other supporting state, local, and federal agencies has documented damage to their home or business. Interested applicants should go to [www.mass.gov/energy/rebuildwesternma](http://www.mass.gov/energy/rebuildwesternma) or call 877-524-1325 to make an appointment with an application and technical advisor.

About the Massachusetts Clean Energy Center

Created by the Green Jobs Act of 2008, the Massachusetts Clean Energy Center (MassCEC) is dedicated to accelerating the success of clean energy technologies, companies and projects in the Commonwealth—while creating high-quality jobs and long-term economic growth for the people of Massachusetts. Mass CEC is a partner, clearinghouse and connector for people in the clean energy sector, making direct investments in clean energy companies, building a strong clean energy workforce, and supporting responsibly sited renewable energy projects across

the Commonwealth. MassCEC works with the entire clean energy community in Massachusetts to propel promising technologies from the drawing board to the global marketplace. Join the Innovation Revolution at <http://www.masscec.com/>.

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