

April 16, 2019

FACT SHEET

Dollar and Energy Saving Loans Program

After the historic flooding and devastation in Nebraska's communities, the Nebraska Energy Office, in conjunction with Nebraska lending institutions, began providing assistance to those affected by floods, by offering Dollar and Energy Saving Loans at 1% interest*.

This loan offering from the Nebraska Energy Office will offer these ultra-low interest loans to **all Nebraskans** to make energy efficient home and farm improvements. **You do not need to be affected by flooding to participate in this special loan offer.** *Subject to lender approval.

The Application Process

Project applications need to be submitted to your Nebraska based lender and the Nebraska Energy Office prior to installation for verification of compliance with program requirements. However, if emergency improvements have already been made, and you wish to apply for a 1% interest loan with your lender, NEO will allow loans for prior improvements provided that installed equipment and materials meet our program requirements and there is appropriate documentation. NEO is also waiving the requirement that the property needs to be at least five years old for this offering.

A sample of eligible energy efficiency home and farm improvements are::

◆ **Appliance Replacement.** If your existing appliances were damaged or destroyed by flood water, you can purchase a replacement under the emergency replacement process. The Nebraska Energy Office covers refrigerators, dishwashers, clothes washers, clothes dryers and freezers. **Appliances must be ENERGY STAR® qualified.** Stoves are not eligible.

- ◆ **Heating, cooling, and water heater replacement.** You can apply to get these replaced if they are deemed unsafe with a copy of the red tag or a statement from the contractor that they are not safe to operate. Furnaces must be 95% efficient. Central air conditioners must be 16 SEER/13 EER. Heat pumps must be 15 SEER/12.5 EER/8.5 HSPF. Water heaters must have an EF .93 for electric and .82 for gas. NEO also allows emergency replacements on electric furnaces.
- ◆ **Doors and Windows.** If you have lost windows and doors, or they were damaged beyond repair, you can replace them under the emergency replacement process in order to seal your home from the elements. The requirements for windows and doors are listed on Form 2-Window/Door.
- ◆ **Insulation.** You can use the program to replace any damaged insulation that has to be removed and replaced, as well as the cost of the drywall and cost to finish (except painting). Damaged siding can be a part of this repair as long as the project is completed according to program guidelines, which are listed on Form 2.
- ◆ **Foundation Walls.** May be replaced/repared if insulated according to program guidelines.
- ◆ **Roofing** replacement
- ◆ **Solar, wind** and biomass projects
- ◆ **Irrigation** system, grain dryers and other farm efficiency improvements

All necessary project forms can be obtained on the following webpage:
<http://www.neo.ne.gov/loan/index.html#getting>

Dollar and Energy Saving Loans at 1% Interest

For Lending Institutions

The Nebraska Energy Office encourages all lenders to consider participating in this special financing opportunity to assist people in securing low-interest financing during this challenging time.

The Nebraska Energy Office (NEO) is offering Dollar and Energy Saving Loans at 1% interest with a 90% participation from the Energy Office.

Typically, NEO only grants emergency approvals for heating and cooling systems. Now, NEO is allowing qualifying projects to be submitted as emergencies provided there is adequate documentation that the equipment is damaged beyond repair.

Project applications need to be submitted to NEO prior to installation for verification of compliance with program requirements. Provided all of the information submitted is complete, every effort will be made to process emergency approvals within 48 hours.

NEO is also waiving the requirement that the property needs to be five years old for this offering. In a departure from NEO's normal operations, if improvements have been made, and the owner wishes to apply for a 1% loan under the program, NEO will allow application for completed improvements that meet program requirements.

All necessary project forms can be obtained on our Loan Projects webpage: <http://www.neo.ne.gov/loan/index.html#getting>

Lender Forms are available on the Lenders webpage: <http://www.neo.ne.gov/loan/lender/forms.htm>

If you have questions please contact:

- ◆ Aaron Miller,
aaron.miller@nebraska.gov
402-471-3359, or
- ◆ Jody Johns,
jody.johns@nebraska.gov
402-471-4282

This offer will end July 1, 2019 or as funds are available.