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## Georgia Public Service Commission

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**For immediate release**

**Consumer Advisory**

**3-09**

### **“Clean Energy Grants” Available to Commercial Business Owners**

ATLANTA, June 3, 2009 – Eligible Georgia commercial business owners may now apply for “Clean Energy Grants” for installing certain “clean energy property” as a result of the passage of legislation (**House Bill 473**) during the 2009 Georgia General Assembly. Clean energy property, as defined in the legislation, includes:

1. Solar Energy Equipment that uses solar radiation as a substitute for traditional energy for water heating, active space heating and cooling, passive heating, daylighting, generating electricity, distillation, desalinization, or the production of industrial or commercial process heat, as well as related devices necessary for collecting, storing, exchanging, conditioning, or converting solar energy to other useful forms of energy.
2. Energy Star certified geothermal heat pump systems
3. Solar energy equipment for solar electric (photovoltaic), other solar thermal electric applications, and active space heating, wind equipment, and biomass equipment
4. Solar energy equipment for domestic water heating
5. Wind equipment required to capture and convert wind energy into electricity or mechanical power as well as related devices that may be required for converting, conditioning and storing the electricity produced by wind equipment.
6. Lighting retrofit projects
7. Energy efficient building projects

The equipment must be placed into service between January 1, 2009 and December 31, 2012. Applications for the grant must be filed with the Georgia Environmental Facilities Authority (GEFA) which will issue rules and regulations concerning eligibility and record keeping. Approval of the grants will be issued on a first come first served basis. The total amount of grants given in any year will not exceed the amount of federal funds available from the American Recovery and Restoration Act (ARRA) of 2009.

The grants for business installations are as follows:

1. The lesser of 35 percent or \$500,000 for solar energy equipment for solar electric (photovoltaic), other solar thermal electric applications, and active space heating, wind equipment, and biomass equipment
2. The lesser of 35 percent or \$100,000 for solar energy equipment for domestic water heating
3. The lesser of 35 percent or \$100,000 for Energy Star certified geothermal heat pump systems
4. \$0.60 per square foot for a maximum of \$100,000 for lighting retrofit projects
5. \$1.80 per square foot for energy efficient building projects up to a maximum of \$100,000.

Applicants who received a clean energy income tax credit under H.B. 670 passed during the 2008 General Assembly are not eligible to receive a clean energy grant.

For more information and to apply for the grants contact the Georgia Environmental Facilities Authority at 404-584-1000 or on the web at [www.gefa.org](http://www.gefa.org).

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