

**GOVERNMENT OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS OF THE UNITED STATES**

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**VIRGIN ISLANDS ENERGY OFFICE**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Energy Accepting AARA Grant Applications**

The Energy Office is set to process applications from non-profit organizations which have energy savings projects that need funding. The first group of applications will be considered in March, 2010.

The projects will be funded under the Energy Office's Discretionary Grant Program which in turn is utilizing funds available from the American Reinvestment and Recovery Act of 2009. Approved projects will receive up to \$50,000 in funding. The Energy Office, a division of the Office of the Governor, set the foundation for this ramped up version of its Discretionary Grant Program with workshops in November on St. Thomas and St. Croix. Over 50 local organizations sent representatives to the workshops.

The program will run until March 2012 or until funds are exhausted. Specific projects mentioned in the grant application include building retrofits, solar/wind outdoor lighting, and energy education outreach. The program goals are energy savings and job creation -- two key things that the Territory could use at this time.

Interested Non-Profit Organizations are reminded to initiate the process by obtaining a Duns number at [www.dnb.com](http://www.dnb.com) . Successful applicant will have to commit five percent (5%) in matching funds or an equivalent in-kind contribution to the project.

The actual grant application can be downloaded from the VI Energy Office website at [www.vienergy.org](http://www.vienergy.org). For any additional information please call Joseph Daniel at 774-3320 Ext. 6108 on St. Thomas.

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