

GOVERNMENT OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS OF THE UNITED STATES

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VIRGIN ISLANDS ENERGY OFFICE

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For Immediate Release

Energy Office Rebate Program Information Available

The Virgin Islands Energy Office, using funds from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, has an expanded rebate program for energy efficiency items and alternative energy systems.

Detailed information about the programs is now available on its website at www.vienergy.org. The information will also be available at public outreaches during the next couple weeks. The outreaches include on St. Thomas, Crown Bay Center, 3 to 8 p.m. on October 23; and at Tutu Park Mall 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on October 24. On St. Croix the Energy Office staff will be handing out information about the rebate programs as well as energy conservation tips at the Sunny Isles amphitheater on October 17, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.; and at Kmart West on October 23 from 1 to 4 p.m.

In the new program, made possible by what is commonly known as the Stimulus Act, the number of eligible energy efficiency items qualifying for rebates has been increased and in some cases limits have been raised. In the new program residents can receive rebates on all Energy Star products that they purchase in the territory. As long as the product has been approved by the EPA as an Energy Star product, residents can bring in a proof of purchase to the Energy Office and receive rebate forms.

In the alternative energy area, the program will again cover more items than the traditional Energy Office program. Rebates will be offered for such solar system components as batteries and charge controllers. Wind turbine towers will also be covered.

Energy Office spokesperson Don Buchanan said, "This program is very attractive and the Energy Office urges residents to take part. However, residents should take time to get the right information. In the rolling out of the program many

possibilities were discussed and some residents might have the wrong idea about how and to whom rebates are available.” He added that the Energy Office staff made the program as attractive to residents as possible while confirming to federal regulations on how the funds could be spent.

For more information, residents can call or visit the Energy Office at No. 45 Mars Hill in Frederiksted (773-1082) and on St. Thomas (774-3320) at the Cyril E. King Airport.

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