



Oregon Department of Administrative Services  
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# News Release

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State uses federal stimulus money to upgrade State Archives Building  
Project will provide work for 17-20 people and generate substantial energy savings

Salem—Federal stimulus money will help pay for improvements to the sophisticated heating and cooling system in the State Archives Building in Salem, while providing work for 17-20 private-sector employees, the state Department of Administrative Services announced Tuesday.

The state will utilize \$250,000 from the federal American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) to install a new heat-recovery chiller system. The upgrade, which will take place under the State Energy Program, combines both conventional heat-recovery and conventional chilled-water systems to reduce energy costs. The sensitive and sometimes fragile documents stored in the Archives Building require state-of-the-art climate control systems that prevent the deterioration of important state records, said Robin Harpster, administrator of the state Facilities Division.

Governor John Kitzhaber praised the project as an example of cooperation with the federal government to bolster the local economy while saving energy costs. “Job creation is my number one priority, and we will use every resource available to us to help Oregon’s economy recover,” Kitzhaber said. “Not only will this put Oregonians back to work, but also help the state save money by improving energy efficiency in our facility.”

Harpster said the state is glad that federal stimulus money is available to help fund the project. “We appreciate the economic benefit that the project will generate for the local community, as well as the savings in energy costs,” Harpster said.

The ARRA manager for the Oregon Department of Energy, Paul Egbert, says his agency projects that the upgraded heating and cooling system will produce 30-35 percent in energy savings. “Projects like this one show the way to a more energy-efficient future while creating or strengthening local jobs,” Egbert said.

The contractor for the project is Oregon Cascade Heating and Cooling, Inc., a Salem-based company. The total cost of the project is \$465,000, of which ARRA funds will cover \$250,000. The state’s Capital Projects Fund will cover the remaining \$215,000.

The Facilities Division issued notice of the project on Feb. 8, and expects completion in early June. The State Archives Building is at 800 Summer Street NE in Salem.

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