



Proposition 39- Webinar Q&A

The following questions were posed during the webinar. The answers provided below are from the panelists participating in the webinar.

1. Can you define large and small district for the two years funding?

Small districts are defined as below 2,000 Average Daily Attendance, with four tiers. The four tiers are “below 100”, “100-1000”, “1000-2000”, and “greater than 2000”.

2. If we are currently involved in capital improvements that reduce energy costs, can we get reimbursed for the costs associated with these improvements?

Reimbursement for projects in progress would not count, as they would not qualify within the state metric of creating new jobs.

3. Are repairs considered for Prop 39 funds?

Repairs would be eligible, if they are considered an energy-saving measure, and are not essential to the function of the equipment. Routine maintenance would not be eligible.

4. Does the Michelle Montoya law apply to CCD or is it K-12 only?

Based on California Education Code Section 41302.5. “school districts” to which the Michelle Montoya law applies are defined as: county boards of education, county superintendents of schools, and direct elementary and secondary level instructional services provided by the state, including the Diagnostic Schools for Neurologically Handicapped Children.

5. We have installed some LED retrofits into our existing t-8 fixtures. Do you have any experience with these?

Linear LED retrofits are not yet the standard for linear fluorescent retrofits, however as the technology continues to grow and become more cost-effective, it is reasonable to believe that linear LED could become the new standard to replace current linear fluorescent lighting. Willdan has experience with this technology.

6. What is the most recent timeline update for Prop 39 rules?

We anticipate that the California Energy Commission will finalize their application requirements by the end of 2013, with applications being received and approved in the spring of 2014.

7. Do you know if these funds can be used to replace an old bus to a more efficient bus?
Transportation would not be covered under Prop 39.

8. In terms of project loading order- are we to submit a number of projects, or is funding limited to a single project at a time?

You can submit individual or combined projects based on your preference.

9. If a district has a certain amount of Prop. 39 funds 'earmarked', what if they have no projects that will meet performance requirements?

Our experience is that almost every building will have energy savings opportunities. We advise hiring an expert energy efficiency engineer to help you identify eligible projects that meet the performance requirements.

10. Has it been determined if funding can be used on energy generation? Or is it only for efficiency projects?

Solar projects may be funded, but appropriate loading order must be followed.

11. Would a district need to encumber and liquidate a project in one year to access the funding - what if a project spans multiple years?

Projects spanning multiple years are acceptable. The funds would need to be encumbered by the program sunset which is June 30, 2018.

12. Do you recommend to load a number of projects into the pipeline and then implement them over the 5 year program timeline?

Typically this is the best idea, so as to have a clear capital expenditures plan. By having a good capital expenditures plan, you can prioritize projects based on necessity and cost, and research utility programs that offer incentives and rebates in order to leverage your Prop 39 funds.

13. If Prop 39 budget is only annual but we have projects in the loading order and move forward with them (exceeding the single year funding distribution amount) how would funds be paid over time?

These details will need to be worked out by the CEC. It is likely that only each year's eligible funding will be paid out in a single year.

14. How are planning funds allocated? After completion of an entire project or can the planning be phased for reimbursement?

Planning costs may be included with the project costs. Specific details should be addressed by the CEC in their application process.

15. How about energy generation projects?

Solar installation projects would be eligible.

16. Do you recommend RFPs include job creation reporting components?

This would depend on the State's method of defining and quantifying job creation.

17. Are pre and post project verifications required as in the incentive programs? If so, does the utility verification satisfy this requirement?

This would depend on State verification methods and metrics to be determined and published by the CEC.

18. What kind of proof will the CEC need to document threat EE measures have been implemented?

Typically copies of the proof of equipment order and/or receipt, combined with a statement certifying that the measures have been implemented suffice. Specifics will likely be provided by the CEC when they publish application requirements.