



December 2015

**Grant Writing Services**

**Ebenezer Mgmt LLC**  
**Brad Oeltjenbruns**  
2516 380<sup>th</sup> Street  
Dayton, Iowa 50530  
Cell 515-460-0106 / Office 515-547-2251  
[OPEOPLE@LVCTA.com](mailto:OPEOPLE@LVCTA.com)  
[www.ebenezermanagement.com](http://www.ebenezermanagement.com)

**2016 Rural Energy for America Program (REAP) - Recap**

1. \$92,000,000 was available for 2014/2015 funding cycle - 2 years of applications piled into 2015
2. \$40,000,000 available for 2016 funding cycle (estimate based on past numbers)
3. Out of the \$40 Million; \$10,000,000 available for applications w/ grant amount of \$20,000 or less - same as last year
4. Each state gets so many dollars allocated for the fiscal year – amount is based on population: if a state does not use their allocation- it flows to a “pool” and other states can access those funds
5. After the Farm Bill was approved in July 2014- very optimistic about grant prospects- in March 2015 USDA changed scoring methodology; those hurt the most: mid-size farmers and energy efficiency applications- renewable applications received benefits
6. Success rates in Midwest generally above 50% - still merit to the program
7. Success somewhat dependent on number of applications- e.i. in 2015, IL had 100 apps; IA had over 400 apps (harder to get funded in IA due to an influx of applications)
8. Best chances of success-
  - a. Volume through the old dryer- the more bushels the better
  - b. Normally the older the dryer- the higher the score
  - c. Small businesses have a scoring advantage
  - d. When in doubt- Do Not Get Greedy- applications of \$20,000 and less have a much higher % of approval or getting funded
9. Grant is gravy- there are no guarantees
10. **Contact Brad Oeltjenbruns** to begin the process of your grant application

***Energy Audit Required for Grant Applications:***

***Jo-Carroll Energy received a grant from USDA to offset a major portion of the energy audit cost. Please contact John Scott from Jo-Carroll Energy for details:***

***John Scott***  
***800-858-5522***  
***jscott@jocarroll.com***