REAP provides grants and loan guarantees to agricultural producers and rural small businesses to help produce clean energy and improve energy efficiency. REAP is a diverse program that has supported projects in every state. Because REAP supports all renewable energy and energy efficiency technologies — such as biofuels, large and small wind systems, farm digesters, solar electric and thermal, and biomass energy — it can serve every agricultural sector.

How Does REAP Work?

REAP Boosts Profits by cutting energy consumption (and bills) with modern clean energy technologies. In 2011, nearly 1,900 REAP projects helped businesses and farmers with $91 million in total awards.

REAP Creates Jobs in manufacturing, installation, operation and maintenance of renewable energy and efficiency systems. REAP leverages private investment in rural communities, driving further job growth. USDA reports that in 2011, REAP saved or created almost 7,000 jobs at a total investment of $465 million.

REAP Protects the Environment by reducing fossil fuel pollution. In 2011 alone, REAP reduced greenhouse gas pollution by almost 2 million metric tons.

REAP Increases Our Energy Security by providing new, homegrown sources of clean energy. In 2011 alone, REAP saved the equivalent of over 2 billion kilowatt-hours of electricity.

What Are REAP’s Benefits?

703 projects awarded under REAP from 2003-2011

$36.1 million in REAP grants from 2003-2011

146 jobs created or saved in 2011 alone

Data from USDA.

Pictured above: In breezy southwestern Minnesota, Nobles Cooperative Electric received a $500,000 REAP grant toward a $3.2 million utility-scale wind farm. The funding helped make the cooperative succeed with wind power and lead in renewable energy development in a state with a strong Renewable Electricity Standard.
REAP: The Big Picture

REAP Awards FY2003-2011

REAP can serve every agricultural sector and has helped in every state.

REAP’s Demand Far Outpaces Funds FY2003-2011

REAP’s Technological Diversity, FY2003-2011

Other 5%

Energy Efficiency 38%

Solar 12%

Biomass 10%

Wind 20%

Anaerobic Digester 15%