

Green Tier Advisors
December 5, 2008

**Funding Options for Building Capacity
for Stakeholder Participation 1.0**

ISSUE SUMMARY: The Green Tier law, Ch 299.83, WI Stats, describes a process for interested persons to participate in negotiations concerning a participation contract. The Advisors and the department have expressed interest in strengthening public and stakeholder participation in Green Tier local contracts and charters. One aspect of this issue is the availability of funding for participation by non-government organizations (NGO).

EDITOR: Carla Wright

BACKGROUND: During the September 8, 2008 meeting, the Advisors requested the department pursue a mechanism to fund building capacity for participation by interested persons in Green Tier Charters and local Contracts, and directed staff develop options on the structure and vehicle for that work for discussion at the December meeting.

DISCUSSION: The purpose of this Issue Paper is to present some models for funding capacity building and stakeholder participation. During the September meeting, the Advisors suggested funding models at the \$25,000 level be considered. The following are some options.

- Application Filing Fees – A fee attached to Tier 2 and Charters.
- State budget item – Although funding for participation was envisioned to be included in the initial Green Tier legislation it was omitted somewhere in the process. Today's state budget condition is hardly favorable to such a request, but the Advisors wanted some of the pros and cons of this option presented.
 - Pro's: funding source is comparatively neutral
 - Con's: the longevity of the funding source is vulnerable to economic fluctuations and budget constraints. Administration of the fund would be an additional workload, and could possibly require Administrative Rules be developed/adopted.
- Trade Association or industry funding – An example of an industry stepping forward to perpetuate work previously funded by a federal grant is the Mercury Collection Project. Upon the conclusion of a four-year federal grant that established an Automotive Mercury Switch Collection Program, the three largest Scrap processors in WI. created a funding source for the DNR to use for program promotion and increasing awareness within the industry. It should be noted that this fund was created for the department to use until a national (industry funded) program would begin.

Green Tier Issue Paper
Funding Options for Building Capacity for Stakeholder Participation
December 5, 2008

- Grants – Philanthropic and/or private industry could be approached for funding grants for building capacity for stakeholder participation. The department could either request a grant, or the department could endorse a grant application made by an NGO for this purpose.

The Advisors' discussion should address:

1. Any additional models.
2. If there are any next steps for the department to take to pursue increased participation by interested persons.