



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 23, 2011
11-44

CONTACTS:

Paul Egbert 503 378-4032
Ann Grim 503 378-4912
In Oregon 1-800-221-8035

Douglas ESD has new lights thanks to stimulus funded project

SALEM— Douglas Educational Services District's (ESD) 109 staff members work in a 22,000-square-foot office that was originally built and used for 30 years as a grocery store for Roseburg residents.

Although remodeled since its grocery store days, the office lighting left a lot to be desired. It had a yellow hue, flickered a lot, and was just plain "horrible" according to Superintendent George Murdock. With a very tight budget, a lighting upgrade was not in the immediate future, Murdock said.

In March 2010, the Oregon Department of Energy (ODOE) posted a solicitation for lighting projects in public buildings using stimulus (Recovery Act) funds. Douglas ESD staff jumped at the opportunity to make an improvement in the office environment and save energy. The solicitation awards, however, were made on a first-come, first-serve basis and the funding was depleted just before ODOE received the Douglas ESD lighting project application.

"Fortunately for Douglas ESD, many of the lighting projects that we made awards to came in under-budget," said Oregon Department of Energy Recovery Act Manager Paul Egbert. "We ended up with some funds that we could re-assign later in the year. We were able to award additional applicants like Douglas ESD."

ODOE awarded \$56,117 in State Energy Plan funds to Douglas ESD in September 2010. The stimulus funds and an incentive of \$8,926 from the Energy Trust of Oregon covered the full cost of the lighting replacement to more energy-efficient T-8 lights and new fixtures.

"We appreciate the funding on this project," said Murdock. "Our staff really notices the difference."

Culver Electric LLC of Culver, Oregon was awarded the installation contract. Willamette ESD of Salem was the project manager. The project is expected to save the district \$4,711 a year in electricity charges.

About the Department of Energy: The Oregon Department of Energy (ODOE) provides tax credits, loans, technical assistance and energy information for homes, businesses, manufacturing, farms, ranches, schools and governments. For more information, visit ODOE's website at www.oregon.gov/energy.

###

Oregon Department of Energy

Main Office

625 Marion Street N.E.
Salem, OR 97301-3737

Phone: 503-378-4040

Toll-free in Oregon: 1-800-221-8035

Fax: 503-373-7806

Website: www.oregon.gov/ENERGY