



Lafayette Utilities System  
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### **LUS Receives Federal Grant for Smart Grid System**

**LAFAYETTE, La. (October 29, 2009)** – Lafayette Utilities System (LUS) has been awarded a U.S. Department of Energy Smart Grid Investment Grant worth \$11.63 million. The funding is meant to help LUS install smart meters, infrastructure and software that will allow electric customers to manage their energy usage. President Barack Obama announced on Tuesday that the government is handing out more than \$3.4 billion as part of the American Reinvestment and Recovery Act, to help utilities companies across the country move toward a stronger, more reliable electric system grid. Over 400 entities applied for this funding and LUS was one of only 100 to be awarded a grant.

This grant money is an important step by LUS to create a Smart Grid system in Lafayette. “We believe the presence of LUS Fiber communications capabilities was an important factor in LUS being selected for this grant award.” said LUS Director Terry Huval. “The effectiveness of the Smart Grid hardware and software in Lafayette will be significantly enhanced by using the LUS Fiber-to-the-Home system as the communication media between LUS and its customers. This integrated system will not only allow LUS’s customers to better monitor and control their energy costs, but also will allow instant communication between LUS and its customers when power outages occur or in the event of emergency situations.”

To receive these stimulus funds and move forward with the project, LUS must match the federal grant. Lafayette Consolidated Government’s administration, Council and utilities officials will be working on procuring the funding to allow LUS to meet its matching cost share for the project.

Smart grid projects across the country are expected to create tens of thousands of jobs, save energy and empower consumers to manage their electric bills. The federal program is the largest single energy grid modernization investment in U.S. history.

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Lafayette Utilities System provides electric, water, wastewater and telecommunications services to the city of Lafayette, reaching approximately 60,000 customers. Our mission is to provide high-quality, competitively-priced services that exceed our customers’ expectations, and contribute to the Lafayette Consolidated Government to support other community needs.