

Small Business Administration

§ 120.342

ENERGY CONSERVATION

§ 120.330 Who is eligible for an energy conservation loan?

SBA may make or guarantee loans to assist a small business to design, engineer, manufacture, distribute, market, install, or service energy devices or techniques designed to conserve the Nation's energy resources.

§ 120.331 What devices or techniques are eligible for a loan?

Eligible energy conservation devices or techniques include:

- (a) Solar thermal equipment;
- (b) Photovoltaic cells and related equipment;
- (c) A product or service which increases the energy efficiency of existing equipment, methods of operation or systems which use fossil fuels, and which is on the Energy Conservation Measures list of the Secretary of Energy;
- (d) Equipment producing energy from wood, biological waste, grain or other biomass energy sources;
- (e) Equipment for cogeneration of energy, district heating or production of energy from industrial waste;
- (f) Hydroelectric power equipment;
- (g) Wind energy conversion equipment; and
- (h) Engineering, architectural, consulting, or other professional services necessary or appropriate for any of the devices or techniques in paragraphs (a) through (g) of this section.

§ 120.332 What are the eligible uses of proceeds?

(a) *Acquire property.* The Borrower may use the loan proceeds to acquire land necessary for imminent plant construction, buildings, machinery, equipment, furniture, fixtures, facilities, supplies, and material needed to accomplish any of the eligible program purposes in § 120.330.

(b) *Research and development.* Up to 30% of loan proceeds may be used for research and development:

- (1) Of an existing product or service; or
- (2) A new product or service.

(c) *Working capital.* The Borrower may use proceeds for working capital

for entering or expanding in the energy conservation market.

§ 120.333 Are there any special credit criteria?

In addition to regular credit evaluation criteria, SBA shall weigh the greater risk associated with energy projects. SBA shall consider such factors as quality of the product or service, technical qualifications of the applicant's management, sales projections, and financial status.

EXPORT WORKING CAPITAL PROGRAM (EWCP)

§ 120.340 What is the Export Working Capital Program?

Under the EWCP, SBA guarantees short-term working capital loans made by participating lenders to exporters (section 7(a)(14) of the Act). Loan maturities may be for up to three years with annual renewals. Proceeds can be used only to finance export transactions. Loans can be for single or multiple export transactions. An export transaction is the production and payment associated with a sale of goods or services to a foreign buyer.

§ 120.341 Who is eligible?

In addition to the eligibility criteria applicable to all 7(a) loans, an applicant must be in business for one full year at the time of application, but not necessarily in the exporting business. SBA may waive this requirement if the applicant has sufficient export trade experience or other managerial experience.

§ 120.342 What are eligible uses of proceeds?

Loan proceeds may be used:

- (a) To acquire inventory;
- (b) To pay the manufacturing costs of goods for export;
- (c) To purchase goods or services for export;
- (d) To support standby letters of credit;
- (e) For pre-shipment working capital; and
- (f) For post-shipment foreign accounts receivable financing.