

# NEWS

From County Supervisor Paul Biane

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## Board Accepts \$4 Million Energy Efficiency Grant

**SAN BERNARDINO** – On Tuesday, the Board of Supervisors accepted a \$4 million federal grant that will be used for multiple projects designed to conserve energy and reduce fossil fuel emissions in the County of San Bernardino.

The County will use \$2.7 million from the grant to install solar energy systems on three County offices and \$400,000 to improve the efficiency of heating and cooling systems at 10 County buildings. The County anticipates receiving an additional \$1.4 million in incentives for the solar and energy efficiency projects. Those incentives will come from the California Solar Initiative and the Energy Efficiency Partnership between the County and Southern California Edison.

“The County spends hundreds of thousands of dollars on electricity every year, and the projects identified for grant funding will reduce that expense while also limiting our impacts on environment,” San Bernardino County Second District Supervisor Paul Biane said.

The County will use \$320,000 to finalize a Greenhouse Gas Reduction Plan, which the County is required to create by AB 32 also known as the Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006.

In addition, the County will use \$600,000 of the grant funds to create an AB 811 program that will allow the County and participating cities to provide low-interest loans so home and business owners can invest in energy efficiency projects that are permanently affixed to their properties.

“I am hopeful we can work with all 24 of our incorporated cities to implement an AB 811 program that will be available to every home and business owner in the County,” Biane

said. "Solar power systems, highly efficient air-conditioning units, and other energy efficiency projects are expensive investments, but an AB 811 program can make them affordable for property owners by spreading out the cost over an extended period of time."

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