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Please consider in developing the grant program guidelines a realistic timeline as to when the grantee would have to complete the conversion to be eligible for the grant.

Koochiching County, owner of a low power station, runs its budget on a calendar year basis. Since we will not be able to apply for a grant until sometime into 2009, we can not plan for the project in our 2009 budget as we need to know the grant amount to determine how much local funding is needed to convert the system. Realistically for us, we would apply for the grant in 2009 but not plan to do the conversion until 2010. I am hoping you would allow a 1 to 2 year timeline from receipt of the grant award for the grantee to actually complete the project.

Thank you for your consideration.