

**EU Newsletter**

Date: 18 November 2011

Subject: **Investments in “Green Industry”**  
Operational Programme “Competitiveness” 2007-2013Deadline: **15 February 2012**

The Ministry of Economy, Energy and Tourism and the Bulgarian Small and Medium Enterprises Promotion Agency (BSMEPA) have announced a new call for proposals **Investments in ‘Green Industry’** under the Operational Programme “Competitiveness”.

1. **Eligible applicants** - legal entities or sole proprietors registered under the Commercial Act or the Cooperatives Act which:
  - ❑ are large enterprises<sup>1</sup>;
  - ❑ have at least 3 completed financial years before submission of the project proposal;
  - ❑ have net sales for the previous year (2010) equal to or more than **BGN 5 000 000**;
  - ❑ **do not** carry out their main economic activity in the field of fisheries and aquaculture, agriculture, manufacture of food products or manufacture of beverages (with some exceptions), coal mining, steel sector, shipbuilding sector, synthetic fibres sector;
  
2. **Eligible activities:**
  - ❑ **Component 1** – expansion of the enterprises, diversification of their production or fundamental change of the production process through purchase and installation of new equipment for:
    - ❑ reduction of the energy consumption during the production process;
    - ❑ efficient use or recycling of the waste products from the production process;
    - ❑ production of products subject to recycling after becoming waste.
  - ❑ **Component 2** – activities related to energy efficiency:
    - ❑ improvement of the leading engines and systems, including replacement;
    - ❑ improvement of the energy systems through change of the energy source;
    - ❑ utilization of the waste heat;
    - ❑ purchase and introduction of small co-generation installations for own needs;
    - ❑ introduction of heating and ventilation systems using renewable energy;
    - ❑ investments in software systems for energy management;
    - ❑ consulting services related to introduction of systems for energy management in compliance with the requirements under standard EN 16001/ EN ISO;
    - ❑ consulting services for project proposal development – up to BGN 10 000;
    - ❑ visualization (up to BGN 3 000) and project audit (up to BGN 10 000).

The grant for activities under Component 2 **must not exceed BGN 391 166**.

Planned duration of the project **must not exceed 24 months**.

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<sup>1</sup> Large enterprises are those that have:

1. average number of staff equal to or more than 250 persons; and
2. annual turnover exceeding BGN 97 500 000, and/or balance sheet exceeding BGN 84 000 000.

### 3. Grants

- ❑ grant amount per single project:
  - ❑ minimum amount – **BGN 1 000 000**;
  - ❑ maximum amount – **BGN 4 000 000**;
- ❑ maximum grant intensity – **50%** of the total eligible costs.

### 4. Payment mechanism

- ❑ advance payment – **up to 20%** of the grant amount after provision of a bank guarantee covering the total amount of the requested advance payment;
- ❑ interim payments;
- ❑ final payment – **minimum 20%** of the grant amount.

### 5. The project proposals shall be submitted to the regional offices of BSMEPA in the cities of Burgas, Blagoevgrad, Varna, Vratsa, Pleven, Plovdiv, Ruse, Sofia, Stara Zagora and Veliko Tarnovo.

The full package of application documents can be found [here](#).

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