

Pa. wasting no time setting up stimulus-funded projects

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Six months into the federal stimulus, Pennsylvania reports it has pushed more than \$2.26 billion of funding out and committed another \$1.63 billion to be spent.

Pennsylvania is slated to receive \$16 billion over two years from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, \$10 billion of which will flow directly through the state for projects and services. Since February's roll out of the stimulus, the state has committed or spent 39 percent of those funds.

The state has obligated 85 percent of its \$1 billion in funding for transportation projects. Of the \$221 million allocated for water and wastewater projects, \$121.9 million worth of projects are moving forward. This month, the state's stimulus funding for weatherization projects will begin flowing out, with \$123 million already on hand and another \$130 million on the way.

That speed in putting federal stimulus dollars to use is being seen locally as well, with already hundreds of millions in funding at work or obligated in the five-county Philadelphia area. Projects that have been obligated are at the stage where notice is given for their funds to be reserved because the bidding process will soon get under way.



Keystone Redevelopment Group partner Chuck Artillio (left) and project manager Nick Ventresca in front of a new energy efficient system (five Capstone C65 ICHP microturbines sold by Capstone Turbine distributor E-finity) built with stimulus funds.