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MDA Energy and Stimulus Divisions to Host Free Webinar June 15 for Renewable Energy Grant Program

On **Tuesday, June 15, at 10 a.m.**, MDA's Energy and Stimulus Divisions will host a free webinar to provide information on Round Two of the Market Transformation and Technology Renewable Energy Grant Program, a program funded by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA). Administrators of for-profit and non-profit organizations, institutions of higher learning, community and junior colleges, public school districts, state entities and local units of government are encouraged to participate.

Speakers for the webinar will be Motice Bruce, director of MDA's Energy Division, and Manning McPhillips, director of MDA's Stimulus Division. Bruce and McPhillips will discuss the program and the application process and will conclude the webinar with a short question-and-answer session.

In Round Two of the Renewable Energy Grant Program, approximately \$3.5 million will be awarded for projects which supplant the use of fossil fuels with systems that use electrical or thermal energy generated from solar, wind, biomass, hydrogen fuel cells, geothermal, waste heat recovery, Combined Heat and Power (CHP) or hydro power. Applicants for the program must read the funding opportunity announcement (FOA) and fill out the application, which can be found by visiting [the FOAs page](#) on the MDA website.

Those interested in participating in this free event should register

online at www.mississippi.org/webinars. For more information, contact Charisse Moore in MDA's Stimulus Division at (601) 359-2351 or cmoore@mississippi.org.

First Country Music Trail Marker Unveiled; Honors "Father of Country Music" Jimmie Rodgers

Mississippi recently honored the "Father of Country Music," Jimmie Rodgers, with the first marker on the Mississippi Country Music Trail at a ceremony on Tuesday, June 1, at Oak Grove Baptist Church Cemetery in Meridian.

Much like the Mississippi Blues Trail, which now garners over 100 markers, the Mississippi Country Music Trail celebrates Mississippi's rich heritage of country music legends and chart toppers. The trail will feature a variety of country music notables, including Charley Pride, Conway Twitty, Jerry Clower, Faith Hill, Paul Overstreet and others.

For more information about the Mississippi Country Music Trail, explore the official Mississippi Development Authority Tourism website, www.visitmississippi.org.

Outdoor Life Magazine Ranks Three Mississippi Towns Among "America's Top 200 Towns for Sportsmen"

Outdoor Life magazine has named Pascagoula, Vicksburg and Greenville as three of "America's Top 200 Towns for Sportsmen." Using extensive data to score the 200 towns on their qualities-of-life and sporting opportunities, the magazine ranked Pascagoula as the 149th best town for sportsmen, Vicksburg was ranked 160th, and Greenville was ranked 168th.

Pascagoula, listed among the "Go Coastal" cities, was recognized for its saltwater fishing. Vicksburg was recognized for the Mississippi River, deer hunting at Tara Wildlife and fishing at Eagle Lake, and Greenville was recognized for its duck hunting.

For more information, please visit www.outdoorlife.com/besttowns. To learn more about the Mississippi outdoors, please contact Mike Jones, Outdoors and Sports Marketing program manager in MDA's Tourism Division, at mjones@mississippi.org, visit www.visitmississippi.org or call 866-SEE-MISS.

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