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Centralia Business Awarded USDA Grant

(KMZA)--A Centralia business has been awarded a grant through USDA Rural Development for an energy efficiency project.

Haverkamp Grocery will receive a nearly \$31,000 grant to replace existing refrigeration and freezer cases with more energy efficient models.

It's among 12 energy projects that have awarded a total of \$237,000 in funding through the Rural Energy for America Program, which is funded through the farm bill. The program offers both loan guarantees and direct grants.

Jessica Bowser, spokeswoman for USDA Rural Development in Kansas, said Kansas businesses received a little more for energy projects than they did last year, but the difference wasn't large. She said grants and loans may increase next year as the new farm bill comes into effect.

Bowser says the projects will save an estimated 660,000 kilowatt hours of energy and create 139,000 kilowatt hours of new renewable energy.

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