

High-speed rail projects to be chosen this winter

By JOAN LOWY (AP) – October 6, 2009

WASHINGTON — The Obama administration says it will begin divvying up \$8 billion designated for high-speed and other passenger rail projects sometime this winter.

The money is a fraction of the rail aid sought by states.

The Federal Railroad Administration said Tuesday it has received 45 applications from 24 states totaling approximately \$50 billion to advance high-speed rail corridor programs.

The agency has also received 214 applications from 34 states totaling \$7 billion for corridor planning and smaller projects, which could include trains traveling less than 100 miles per hour.

Congress included the money in the \$787 economic stimulus package approved earlier this year.