

Oregon Department of Energy

Low Impact Hydro Workshop – Bend, Oregon



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How do I pay for my project?

- Community Renewable Energy Feasibility Fund (CREFF)
- Business Energy Tax Credit (BETC)
- Small-scale Energy Loan Program (SELP)

Community Renewable Energy Feasibility Fund (CREFF)

Established in May 2007 with \$1 million

Patterned after BusinessOregon's
Renewable Energy Feasibility Fund (REFF)



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CREFF ELIGIBILITY

- Proposal must be a feasibility study - not a study required for permits
- Study must examine renewable energy, heat, and fuel projects. Definition is harmonized with tax credits and loan products.
- For electricity-producing projects, must collectively generate between 25 kW and 10 MW.
- Anyone can apply.
- Must have matching funds of at least 25% of the study's cost.
 - None of the 25% match may come from state coffers.
 - A maximum of half of the 25% match may come from in-kind sources.

ELIGIBILITY, cont.

COMMON ELIGIBILITY PROBLEMS:

- Grants will only be issued for feasibility studies, not shovel work.
- Grants will only be issued to study renewable energy, heat, and fuel projects. (for example, not solar panel manufacturing)
- Grants will not be awarded for studies of efficiency (conservation) measures.
- Project must be site-specific, as opposed to regional surveys.
- Grants will not be awarded for technology research and development or “pilot” projects with untested technologies.
- The 25% match is non-negotiable.



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HOW TO APPLY

Sign in to ORPIN

- Questions and Answers, Addenda, Amendments

Three parts to your application

1. Proposal Summary
2. Proposal Narrative, with project description and direct response to criteria
3. Two letters of support from the community



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EVALUATION by COMMITTEE

Ranked by committee

Final award decisions at Energy, considering

- Committee rankings
- Geographical, sector, and award recipient diversity
- Total amount of disbursement



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Tax Credits and Loans Apply to . . .

- Energy efficiency
- Renewable energy
- Manufacturing facilities of renewable energy systems and equipment
- Bio-fuels
- Sustainable buildings
- Energy Saving Recycling projects



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Business Energy Tax Credit (BETC)

- Established in 1979
- Over \$250 million per year in energy saved or produced
- Over 1 billion invested by businesses in more than 10,000 energy-savings and renewable energy projects.



*Oregon State Capitol Building
the first in the nation to go solar*



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BETC 3-Tiered Renewable Program



**Designed in response to the 2009 legislative mandated caps.
Program sunsets 6-2012**

Tier 1 First come first served, eligible costs < \$500,000

Tier 2 Competitive process eligible costs between \$500K and \$6 million
Newest round:

October–December 2010 Funding (subject to change)

- Date Applications - Accepted October 1, 2010
- Applications Due - October 29, 2010 by 5PM PST
- Technical Review & Scoring - November & December 2010
- BETC Preliminary Certificate Notification -Late Dec 2010

Tier 3 Competitive process eligible costs > \$6 million



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Project Specifications

- Conservation: \$10 million of eligible costs per approved project
- Renewable: \$20 million of eligible costs per approved project
- Tax credit = 35% (conservation) and 50% (renewable) of eligible project costs
- Tax credit is claimed over 5 years
- The credit may be transferred for a net present value payment through a “pass-through partner”



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BETC Eligibility

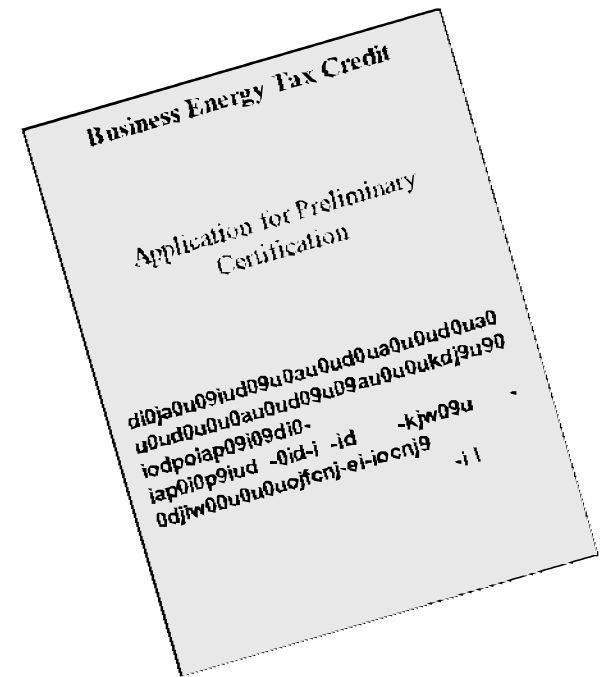
- Be a trade, business or rental property owner with a business site in Oregon **or** be an Oregon non-profit organization, tribe, or public entity that partners with an Oregon business or resident;
- Own or be the contract buyer of the facility; and
- Use the equipment or lease it to another person or business in Oregon; and
- Not have started physical construction; and
- Must complete the facility and receive final certification before by July 1, 2012.



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BETC Process

1. Contact ODOE for support and guidance
2. Apply for
“Preliminary Certification”
3. ODOE Review
---- once approved ----
4. Complete Project
5. Apply for
“Final Certification”



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