



The Oregon Solar Energy Industries Association founded in 1981. OSEIA is made up of solar installers, electrical firms, utilities, union firms, independent firms, and educational institutions. OSEIA represents over 50 solar stakeholders across Oregon.

We see the RETC, used by all Oregonians, as the cornerstone of the solar industry. The RETC serves both ratepayers in the Investor owned utilities areas such as PGE and Pacific Power and the Municipal and Cooperative Utility Ratepayer. For most of Oregonians the RETC is the only residential solar incentive available.

OSEIA has high praise for the Oregon Department of Oregon. They have recently moved over to a single point paperwork processing system with the Energy Trust of Oregon. Our estimate is this has reduced paperwork time, per customer by over 2 hours. It is this type of "Soft Cost" reduction that further reduces the installed cost of solar to Oregonians. Over the last four years the 'average' installed cost has decreased 40%. That is approximately 10% per year. The industry is fulfilling its' promise to decrease costs.

ODOE, by statutory authority, can lower the Incentive rate based on market conditions, which they have done multiple times. OSEIA would like to praise ODOE for the Democratic and statewide process they undertake during these critical times.

Employment growth in the solar industry in 2014 outpaced the national average. In 2014 Solar was the number one source of new electricity generation. The industry is creating well paying jobs to Oregonians.

The RETC is an important cornerstone for Oregon solar installers and Oregon families. It is a wise investment and good public policy. We urge you to support its' extension.

Thank you,

Paul N. Israel, President and Chair