



OPPOSITION TO AN EXPANSION OF THE 1.5% FOR
GREEN ENERGY TECHNOLOGIES ON PUBLIC
BUILDINGS

The Original Statute

- Effective in creating living wage jobs for Oregon families – an expansion would be at the expense of the solar industry
- Clear and direct
- Public agencies can focus their resources on one technology, and in a few geographic locations can include geothermal in their analysis
- Clean, readily available, and free fuel source

Comparison of the original statute vs. the expanded statute

Original Statute

- Promotes solar projects that provide good installation jobs (prevailing wage)
- Creates and sustains local manufacturing jobs
- Uses a free fuel source – the sun
- Solar emits no carbon
- Ensures that new commercial projects invest in very clean energy sources

Expanded Statute

- Expansion directly reduces solar industry projects
- Promotes an industry with a less desirable sustainable score card
- Biomass boilers rely on limited, localized fuel sources
- Biomass supply is further destabilized by harvesting restrictions on federal lands

We've Already Come So Far

- Our legislature and public agencies have worked diligently alongside the private sector to chart a course towards a stable and prosperous solar industry
- In doing so, we have created a national model of excellence for public-private partnerships
- A change would degrade Oregon's reputation as a leader in solar energy

Projects Completed Under the Current 1.5% Statute

Oregon Department of Veterans Affairs – Lebanon, OR

- Solar installation is the centerpiece of the property's energy strategy
- 11 building, 12 acre campus with 8 solar arrays
- 85.7 kW of solar generates an estimated 93,000 kWh of energy annually
- Neighboring high school is expected to use the data monitoring kiosks to enhance their renewable energy studies



Projects Completed Under the Current 1.5% Statute

Warm Springs K-8 Elementary – Warm Springs, OR

- Benefits the children, parents, and teachers of The Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs.
- 58.6 kW system is expected to generate over 81,000 kWh hours of energy, saving the school over \$5,000 annually.
- The installation has inspired the Jefferson County School District to add solar and renewable energy to their curriculum. Doing so ensures a generation of renewable energy savvy citizens.



Projects Completed Under the Current 1.5% Statute

Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife

- 19.6 kW system generates over 21,000 kWh annually for the ODFW.



Projects Completed Under the Current 1.5% Statute

Bend Centennial Parking Garage

- 33 kW installation generate 40,000 kWh of energy annually.

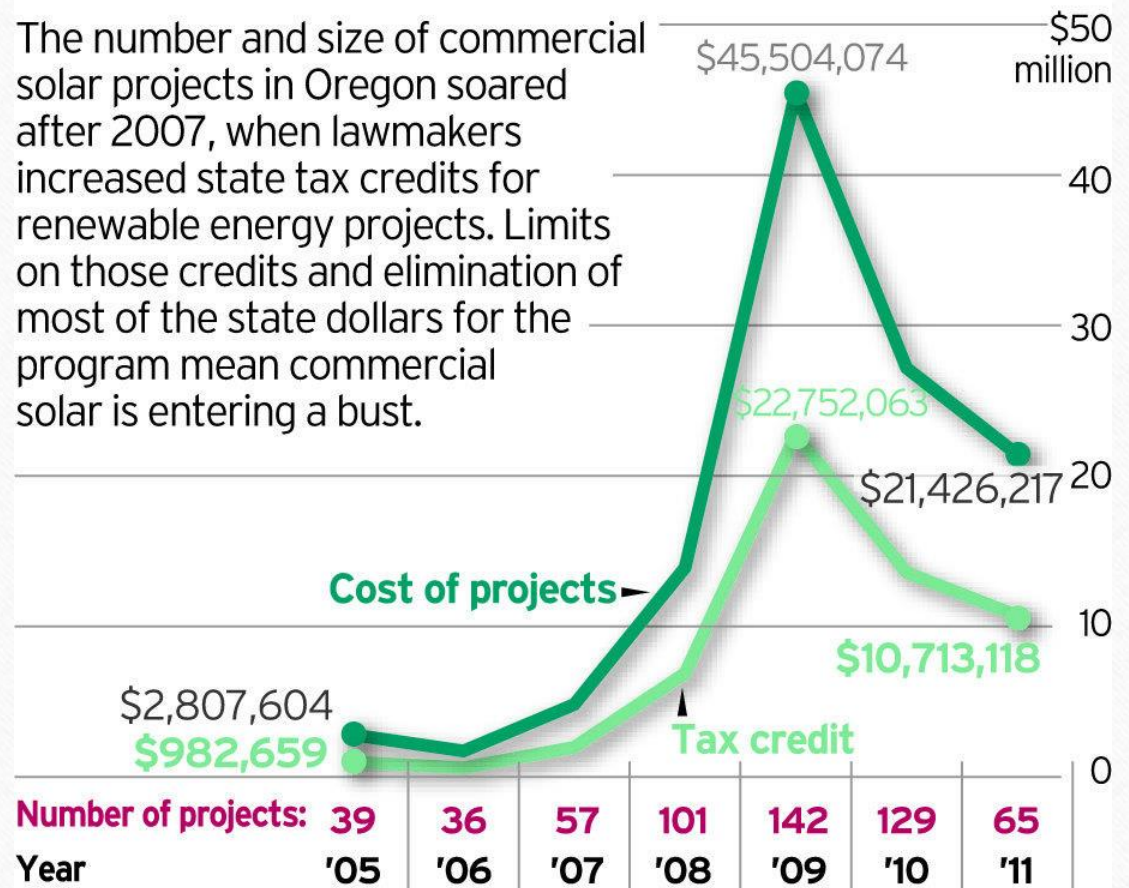


2011 - Commercial Tax Credits Dismantled

- Local commercial solar companies took a large hit with the reduction of the BETC.
- Developers in the space redeployed their resources to other states and took family-wage jobs with them.
- Many homegrown businesses struggled to retain staff and others closed their doors.

Oregon solar energy projects

The number and size of commercial solar projects in Oregon soared after 2007, when lawmakers increased state tax credits for renewable energy projects. Limits on those credits and elimination of most of the state dollars for the program mean commercial solar is entering a bust.



Source: Oregon Department of Energy

DAN AGUAYO/THE OREGONIAN

In Closing

- Commercial solar installers in Oregon cannot withstand another large hit to incentives that support a growing industry and living wage jobs
- Solar is a free, clean fuel source
- The current model is clear and direct
- The current model ensures collaboration and provides a national model of excellence for public-private partnerships