

From: Frank Vignola
To: [LRO](#)
Subject: extension of RETC
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The extension of RETC is important to the solar community of Oregon. It helps maintain jobs, moves Oregon towards energy independence where we can keep our money within Oregon, and is favored by a vast majority of Oregonians.

I run a solar radiation monitoring laboratory at the university of Oregon. I have five students who worked in our lab this year, of which two are volunteers what wanted to learn more about solar energy. The lab runs a website on solar resource assessment that is accessed by over a 100,000 unique users each year from over 150 countries. It also is accessed by over 500 universities around the United States and several hundred k-12 schools around the us. We have solar lesson plans that are downloaded over 32,000 times a year. This information is to let you know about the interest in solar energy.

Having taken advantage of RETC it helped me to decide to purchase a solar energy system itself. While the cost of solar systems is coming down, it is still expensive and this Oregon program not only reduces the cost of the system, it gives an added impetus to those interested in purchasing such a system. This does benefit all the utility customers in the state by reducing the cost of adding new power stations.

So please extend the RETC in Oregon.

Best regards,

Frank

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