



OREGON
DEPARTMENT OF
ENERGY

Update: Community Renewable Energy Grant Program and Small-Scale & Community- Based Energy Projects Study

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House Committee on
Environment and Natural Resources
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OREGON DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Leading Oregon to a safe, equitable, clean, and sustainable energy future.

Our Mission

The Oregon Department of Energy helps Oregonians make informed decisions and maintain a resilient and affordable energy system. We advance solutions to shape an equitable clean energy transition, protect the environment and public health, and responsibly balance energy needs and impacts for current and future generations.

What We Do

On behalf of Oregonians across the state, the Oregon Department of Energy achieves its mission by providing:

- A Central Repository of Energy Data, Information, and Analysis
- A Venue for Problem-Solving Oregon's Energy Challenges
- Energy Education and Technical Assistance
- Regulation and Oversight
- Energy Programs and Activities

ODOE's HB 2021 Assignments

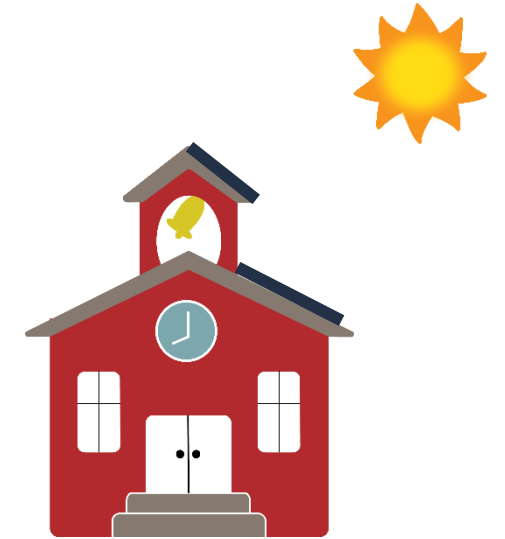
- Responsible Labor Standards
- No New Fossil-Fuel Power Plants
- Community Renewable Energy Grant Program
- Small-Scale Renewable Energy Study



COMMUNITY RENEWABLE ENERGY GRANT PROGRAM

HB 2021 Establishes the Community Renewable Energy Grant Program to:

- Offset costs of planning and developing community renewable energy projects.
- Support projects in traditionally underserved communities.
- Promote small-scale community renewable energy projects.
- Provide direct benefits to communities across Oregon by improving energy resilience, creating local jobs, promoting economic development, and reducing local energy costs.



BUDGET PRIORITIES

- 50 percent or more for grants to be awarded for planning or developing community renewable energy projects that qualify as **community energy resilience projects**.
- 50 percent or more for grants to be awarded for planning or developing community renewable energy projects that primarily serve **one or more environmental justice communities**.

GRANTS TO OREGON COMMUNITIES

PROJECT CATEGORY	MAXIMUM GRANT AWARD	MAXIMUM % OF COST
Planning, Energy Resilience	\$100,000	100%
Planning, Renewable Energy Only	\$100,000	100%
Construction, Energy Resilience	\$1,000,000	100%
Construction, Renewable Energy Only	\$1,000,000	50%

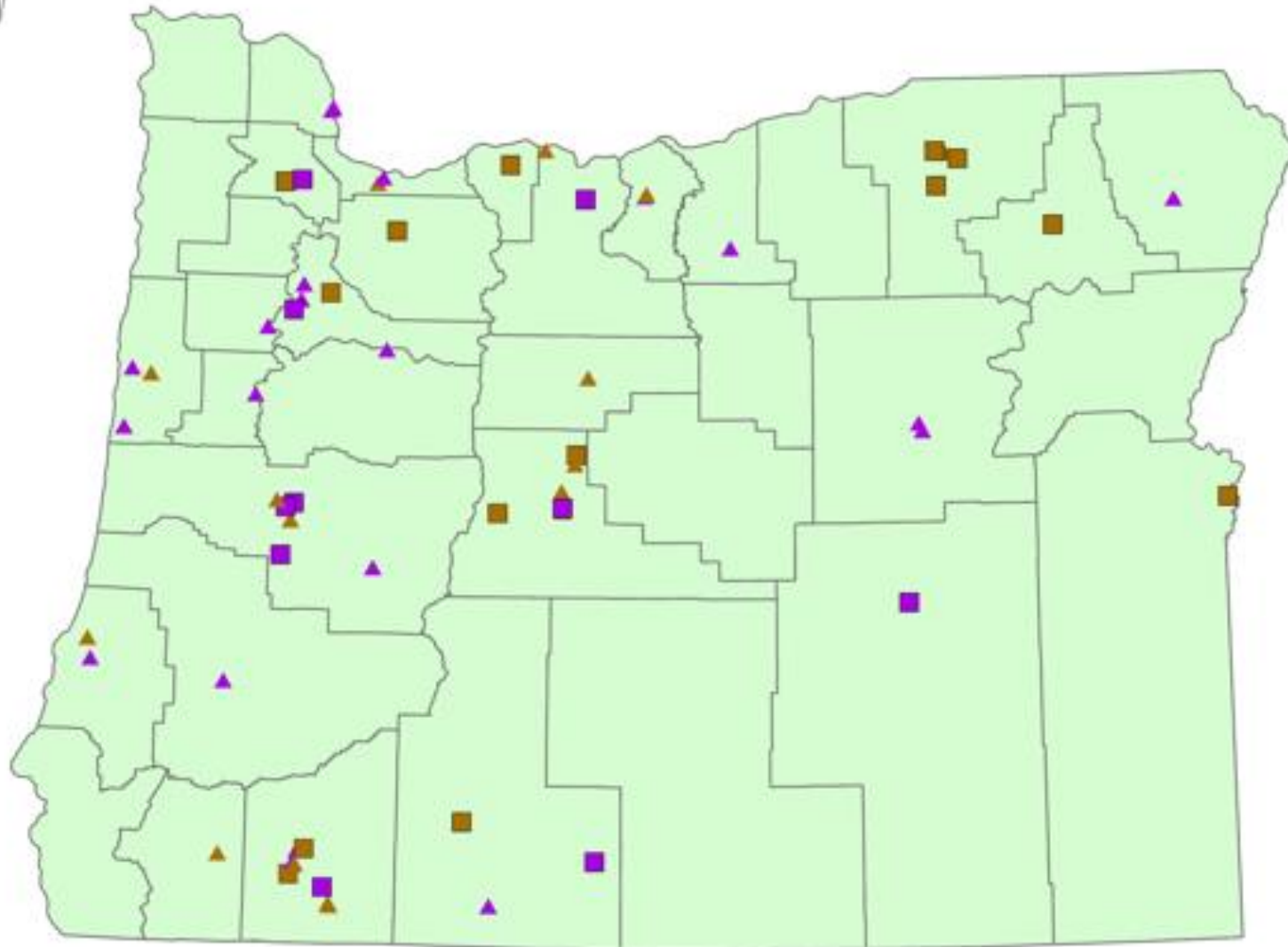
The first round of opportunity announcements for \$12 million in funding were posted in March 2022 and closed in July.

FIRST ROUND APPLICATIONS

Number of Applications by Applicant

Tribe	4
County	8
Cities	30
Consumer Owned Electric Utility	2
Other Public Body	24
Total	68

- \$12M available
- More than \$27.6M in grant requests
- \$17.6M for energy resilience projects
- 58 applications in competitive review
- Awards notifications in October
- Next round of funding posted this fall



Legend

Project Sites

Application Type

-  Construction Renewable
-  Construction Resilience
-  Planning Renewable
-  Planning Resilience
-  County_Lines

STUDY OF SMALL-SCALE RENEWABLE PROJECTS

HB 2021 directs ODOE to convene a work group-led study on small-scale and community-based renewables.

[HB 2021](#) requires the study to cover:

- Barriers to project development
- Potential economic and resilience benefits
- Access and ownership opportunities
- Potential rate impacts
- Potential legislation to encourage small-scale renewables

Wind



Solar



Geothermal



Biomass / Biogas



Marine Hydrokinetic
(Wave)



Certain Hydropower



Renewable Hydrogen



WORKGROUP MEMBERS BY ORGANIZATION

- Oregon Legislature (Owens and Dembrow)
- Rogue Climate
- Oregon Solar + Storage Industries Association
- Oregon Citizens' Utility Board
- Oregon Clean Power Cooperative
- Energy Trust of Oregon*
- Small Business Utility Advocates
- PacifiCorp
- Exelon
- Portland Bureau of Planning and Sustainability –
Portland Clean Energy Fund
- Portland General Electric
- Oregon Department of Land Conservation and
Development
- Bonneville Power Administration
- Oregon Public Utility Commission
- Emerald People's Utilities District
- Idaho Power
- Lane County Public Works
- Community Renewable Energy Association
- City of Milwaukie
- Coalition of Communities of Color
- Verde
- BlueGreen Alliance
- Central Electric Coop
- City of Prineville
- City of Ashland Electric Utility
- Crook County
- Navajo Power

STUDY WORK GROUP SCHEDULE

Workshop #1 – April 28, 2022

Focus: Ownership and Access

Workshop #2 – June 3, 2022

Focus: Opportunities and Barriers

Workshop #3 – June 28, 2022

Focus: Benefits, Costs, and Rate Impacts

Workshop #4 – July 28, 2022

Focus: Project Recap and Possible Recommendations

Guest Speakers:

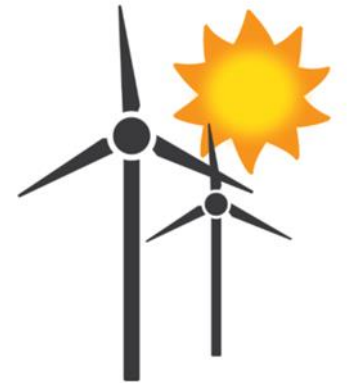
- Energy Trust
- PaTu Wind Farm
- CPUC
- PGE
- PAC
- OPUC
- City of Prineville
- Elemental Energy
- BPA
- Obsidian Renewables
- Navajo Power
- Pine Gate Renewables
- Farm Conservation Alliance
- Solarize Rogue
- Oregon Clean Power Cooperative
- Three Sisters Irrigation
- Bonneville Energy Foundation
- Public Service Commission of Wisconsin

KEY FINDINGS

- Opportunity to achieve important goals, such as:
 - Equity
 - Efficient land use
 - Local energy resilience to extreme weather events
 - Increased local economic performance
- Opportunities exist in every community.
- Barriers include:
 - Financing & insurance
 - Regulatory hurdles
 - Local knowledge & capacity
 - Improving access for:
 - Communities of color
 - Indigenous communities
 - Rural & low-income communities

WORKGROUP MEMBER RECOMMENDATIONS

- Workgroup identified **guiding principles** to inform the development of potential recommendations to advance small-scale renewables:
 - Assist Oregon in meeting state goals as defined in HB 2021.
 - Promote equitable outcomes, including a promotion of the state's environmental justice goals.
 - Maintain affordable energy / rates for all Oregonians.
 - Promote an equitable distribution of costs and benefits for all Oregonians.
 - Support project transparency.
 - Consider the perspectives of other stakeholders that may differ from one's own perspective.
 - Support economic development in Oregon.
 - Support unique contributions of small-scale projects, including:
 - Local energy resilience
 - Nimbleness due to smaller footprint / scale
 - Community / local ownership
 - Utilization of local available resources, including hydro and bioenergy
 - Waste stream management when waste is used for bioenergy projects





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Questions/Comments?

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