

Renewable Development Fund

2019 Guidelines

Thank you for your interest in the Green FutureSM Renewable Development Fund (RDF). The RDF is made possible by the more than 190,000 customers supporting PGE's Green Future renewable energy. RDF funds come from a portion of the payments that Green Future customers voluntarily pay in addition to their standard PGE electricity bill.

Please review the eligibility guidelines, project requirements, and evaluation criteria below. Applications will be reviewed by a committee of PGE representatives and recommended to the Oregon Public Utility Commission (OPUC) based on these considerations and subject to availability of funds.

Eligible for Funding

1. Selected projects will be allocated funds to provide part of the costs of new "steel in the ground" renewable energy projects that are either directly interconnected to PGE's grid or delivered to PGE pursuant to a Power Purchase Agreement (PPA).

Eligible renewable project types include:

- Wind
- Geothermal
- Solar photovoltaic
- Low-impact hydroelectric certified by the Low Impact Hydro Institute (LIHI)
- Pipeline or irrigation canal hydropower
- Wave energy
- Tidal energy
- Low-emission biogas

2. Research and development projects that facilitate renewable energy market transformation or the emergence of new renewable technologies.
3. Educational components directly associated with an RDF-funded renewable project.

Ineligible for Funding

1. Renewable energy project types:
 - Passive solar or solar thermal systems
 - Geothermal heat-pump systems
 - Geothermal or biomass heat generation systems
 - Single-family residential projects
 - Off-grid projects with no additional educational benefits

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2. Activities not directly associated with the capital costs of new renewable energy systems:
 - Structural or site improvements required prior to project construction, including:
 - o Canopies
 - o Roofing
 - o Tree removal
 - o Lighting
 - o Flooring
 - o Structural reinforcement
3. Fees incurred for project estimates or bids.
4. Site evaluation expenses.
5. Landscaping costs.
6. Construction Bond Costs.
7. Facility maintenance or repair costs.
8. Interest or warranty charges.
9. Donated, in-kind, or volunteer materials or labor.
10. Marketing of project.
11. Administration or other “soft” costs.

Project Requirements

1. Project must be either directly interconnected to PGE’s grid or delivered to PGE pursuant to a PPA. Direct Access customers are eligible.
2. Project must be new or an expansion of an existing project.
3. Project completion (defined as delivering power) within 18 months of funding approval. Extensions may be considered on a case-by-case basis.
4. Commercial or utility scale, with capacity less than 10 MW.
5. If any project receives over \$400,000 in grant funds, applications must be reviewed and approved by the Oregon Public Utility Commission (OPUC) before any funds are assigned to a proposed project. Additionally, all for-profit projects will go through this same process regardless of award amount.
6. Projects receiving less than \$400,000 require the OPUC Staff to receive a list of funded projects for review. Following a one-week waiting period, PGE will notify the selected applicants of the funding decision.
7. Equipped with production monitoring equipment to collect and report facility output, with data made available via both a production history electronic database and a public web link, to PGE for a period no less than ten years.
8. All solar PV projects must have an Energy Trust-certified trade ally as their solar contractor and receive an Energy Trust incentive if eligible. This information will be required for the RDF application form.
9. Follow interconnection guidelines as required by PGE, the OPUC, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC), or any other relevant regulatory agencies.

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Project Preferences

Projects meeting the following criteria may be given priority:

1. Site is located within PGE service territory. Alternatively, project can be nominated or sponsored by a PGE customer or community in PGE's service territory.
2. Site and/or system is owned by a PGE customer.
3. If customer-sited, host customer is either a public or non-profit entity or is proposing a project in a meaningful partnership with a public or non-profit entity.
4. Renewable Energy Certificates ([RECs](#)) from project are not sold to third parties.
5. Multi-family and low-income housing projects are encouraged to apply.
6. Constructed with local materials or labor (preference for materials and labor from PGE's service territory, Oregon or the Pacific Northwest).
7. Provide a substantial benefit to the community in the form of educational engagement and public visibility.
8. Provide significant environmental and economic benefits to local communities and PGE customers.
9. Applicant has demonstrated efforts to obtain all other available funding sources, incentives, federal grants, and tax credits.
10. Projects that have pledged their own funds, secured in-kind donations, or shown a willingness to engage in creative fund-raising efforts which contribute to the overall appeal of the project.
11. Projects in which the entirety of overhead, administrative, or project management costs are born by the project owner.
12. Projects which provide direct financial benefit to the host customer, where the host customer is a for-profit business may be considered only if the host customer is purchasing renewable power through a Green-e[®] certified renewable power program.
13. Applicant currently participates in one or more of PGE's Green Future products.
14. Projects offer additionality in the form of energy efficiency considerations, electric vehicle charging stations, energy storage or other conservation initiatives. These additional efforts will not be funded through the RDF, but projects may be given priority because of the added benefits.
15. Project host provides at least 15 percent of the total project budget with a maximum of 85 percent coming from other outside funding sources (RDF, Energy Trust, Oregon Department of Energy, etc.)

Funding Parameters

No single applicant or project will be eligible to receive more than 33% of total development fund balance at the outset of each funding cycle. Available funding will be made known at outset of each year/application round. Available funding for the 2019 process is **\$2.3 million as of Jan. 1.**

1. All applicants are expected to secure all other forms of available funding, including grants, incentives, and state/federal tax credits.

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2. PGE's primary interest is to provide enough funding such that a project is economically feasible; the development funds pay down the above market costs. This may result in funding of anywhere from a few hundred dollars to millions of dollars.
3. Based on evaluation, funding may differ from the amount requested.
4. The RDF will only fund amounts over the 1.5% Green Energy Technology R
5. PGE will allocate funding based upon qualified applications, with no guaranteed total amount to be released in any given round.
6. PGE will not provide development assistance, or assistance in obtaining co-funding.

Additional Considerations

1. Diversity of projects and locations: PGE will seek to fund a diverse mix of small and large projects.
2. Reasonableness of the application.
3. Thoroughness of project design.
4. Feasibility of project budget.
5. Qualifications of project team.
6. Project complexity and technical feasibility.
7. Project readiness (project is well-developed with a known size, timeline and budget).
8. PGE will present an informational update on projects at regularly scheduled Portfolio Option Committee meetings and OPUC meetings.