

Washington's Financial Opportunities and Resources

State Resources

State of Washington

Tax Abatement for Solar Manufacturers (www.dor.wa.gov)

The State of Washington offers a reduced business and occupation (B&O) tax rate for Washington manufacturers and wholesale marketers of solar-electric (photovoltaic) modules or silicon components of those systems.

Washington Renewable Energy Production Incentives (www.solarwashington.org)

Individuals, businesses, and local governments that generate electricity from solar power, wind power or anaerobic digesters can receive production incentives of \$0.12 to \$0.54 per kilowatt-hour (kWh), capped at \$2,000 per year.

Sales and Use Tax Exemption

In Washington State, tax does not apply to the sales of equipment used to generate electricity from wind, sun or landfill gas, and with the passage of HB 1859 in 2001, fuel cells. Further amendments in 2006 (HB 2799) added solar water heating systems to the list of eligible technologies. The tax exemption applies to labor and services related to the installation of the equipment, as well as to the sale of equipment and machinery. Eligible systems are those with a generating capacity of at least 200 watts.

Washington - Net Metering (www.northwestsolarcenter.org)

Washington's net-metering law applies to systems up to 100 kilowatts (kW) in capacity that generate electricity using solar, wind, hydro, biogas from animal waste, or combined heat and power technologies (including fuel cells). All customer classes are eligible, and all utilities -- including municipal utilities and electric cooperatives -- must offer net metering.

Washington State University Extension Energy Program

(<http://www.energy.wsu.edu/>)

Manufacturing Efficiency Program

The program offers grants to small and medium sized manufacturers in Washington state to pursue energy efficiency projects. Grants will be awarded to efficiency projects that would otherwise not be implemented without assistance. Projects which save electricity and/or natural gas can qualify for funding and the utility serving the manufacturer will keep the conservation credits. Awards will range from approximately \$5,000 to \$10,000

Regional Resources

Northwest Solar Cooperative - Green Tag Purchase (<http://www.solaroregon.org/get-involved/northwest-solar-coop>)

The Northwest Solar Cooperative* (NWSC) offers to purchase the rights to the environmental attributes or "Green Tags" derived from grid-connected photovoltaic (PV) or wind energy at a rate of \$0.02 per kilowatt-hour (kWh) through December 31, 2009. Residential and non-residential owners of PV and wind-energy systems installed after

June 1, 2002, in Oregon, Washington, Idaho and Montana are eligible to participate in the Green Tag Purchase Program.

Utilities and Rural Cooperatives Resources

Avista (www.avistautilities.com)

Avista Utilities offers a variety of energy management tools and services for commercial and industrial customers who receive retail electric and natural gas distribution from them.

Site-Specific Incentives

This program tailors their work to your project. Services include technical assistance, design review and cash incentives. Contact your account executive and ask about "Site-Specific Incentives".

Renewable Generation Incentive" (RGI)

Avista offers financial help for customers in Washington who install renewable energy systems. Participants receive an annual credit on their utility bill to help offset and recover costs for solar panels, wind turbines or anaerobic digesters. Information about this incentive is under the "Services and Pricing" section and "Renewable Energy Generation".

Benton PUD (www.bentonpud.org)

Commercial and Agricultural Energy Efficiency Rebate Programs

(http://www.bentonpud.org/save_energy_money/comm_lighting.html)

Benton PUD offers a variety of incentives to non-residential customers for energy efficiency improvements. Projects are available for commercial customers interested in energy efficient lighting and special projects that improve efficiency or process related systems such as compressed air, variable frequency drives and refrigeration. Rebates are also available for agricultural customers for making energy improvements to their sprinkling systems.

[The Agricultural Sprinklers and Motors Program](#) offers incentives for sprinklers, nozzles, and replacement of 25 to 500 horsepower pump motors and special projects. Interested customers should contact the utility directly for more information.

Chelan County PUD (www.chelanpud.org)

Sustainable Natural Alternative Power Producers Program (SNAP)

This program encourages customers to install alternative power generators such as solar panels and wind turbines and connect them to the District's electrical distribution system by offering an incentive payment based on the system's production. Systems up to 25 kilowatts are eligible for SNAP funds. Larger systems can participate but will only receive SNAP funds for 25 kW. SNAP is not for customers who want to install renewable energy sources for back-up power generation at their home or business.

ResourceSmart Program

This program helps industrial and commercial customers install energy-efficiency improvements by paying for a portion (up to 75 percent) of the up-front cost to replace,

retrofit, or install new equipment. Customers can work with the utility to determine the eligible projects.

Clark Public Utilities (www.clarkpublicutilities.com)

Solar Energy Equipment Loan

(<http://www.clarkpublicutilities.com/ourenvironment/generatePower/solarOptions/index.html>)

Clark Public Utilities offers financing available to its customers for the purchase and installation of residential solar equipment. Loans up to \$10,000 are available for solar pool heaters and solar water heaters and up to \$30,000 for photovoltaic systems.

Commercial Energy Efficiency Rebate Programs (www.clarkpublicutilities.com/yourbusiness/businessConservationPrograms)

Clark Public Utilities offers a variety of energy efficiency rebates and services to help their commercial and industrial customers save energy in their existing and new facilities. Clark Public Utilities will send a Key Account Manager to perform a free on-site energy assessment of the facilities. Financial assistance is also available to support the completion of a compressed air audit in a customer's facility. The utility also offers three rebate programs: The Commercial/Industrial Lighting Incentive Program, the Custom Project Program, and the Green Motor Rewind Program.

Columbia Rural Electric Association (www.columbiarea.com)

Irrigation Energy Efficiency Rebate Program

Columbia REA, through the Bonneville Power Administration, offers an irrigation energy efficiency program for its agricultural customers. All measures installed under this program must be installed and operating by September 30, 2009 to qualify for payment. Stationary systems are not eligible for this program due to the number of sprinklers per acre. Replacement sprinklers are eligible for retrofits identified by utility staff, the consumer, the irrigation equipment dealer, or through pump testing and system evaluation. The new sprinkler nozzle flow rate must be the same or lower than those replaced. A variety of different irrigation equipment including gaskets, sprays, sprinklers, nozzles, drains, and drop tubes are eligible for rebates. Specific equipment and rebate amounts are listed on the program website.

Ferry County PUD #1 (<http://www.fcpud.com/conservation.htm>)

The PUD is providing 0% interest loans for either line extensions or PV systems for people in the service territory who are currently off-grid.

Franklin County PUD (<http://www.franklinpud.com>)

Franklin PUD offers a residential loan program to customers making energy efficiency improvements. Eligible conservation measures include installation of photovoltaics and solar hot water systems, as well as many Energy Star appliances.

Okanogan County PUD (www.okanoganpud.org)

Sustainable Natural Alternative Power Program (SNAP)

Okanogan's SNAP program is modeled after Chelan County's PUD program. SNAP encourages members to install renewable energy generators and connect them to their

utility's electrical distribution system by offering an incentive payment based on the system's production on a \$/kWh basis. Qualified alternative energy resources" includes electricity produced from generation facilities that are fueled by: (a) wind; or (b) solar energy and other alternative energy resources. Systems up to 100 kW can participate, but the incentive will be adjusted to that of a 25 kW system.

Conservation Loan Program

Loans are available for a variety of conservation measures.

Orcas Power & Light (www.opalco.com)

Orcas Power and Light (OPALCO), an electric cooperative serving Washington's San Juan Islands, provides a production-based incentive for residential and commercial members who generate energy from wind and micro-hydroelectric sources. To receive an incentive, members must sign an Agreement for Interconnection granting OPALCO rights to the system's Green Tags (renewable energy certificates).

Pacific Power (www.pacificpower.net.)

Energy FinAnswer (For Large Commercial, Industrial and Irrigation Facilities)

Pacific Power's Energy FinAnswer program provides cash incentives to help its commercial and industrial customers improve their heating, cooling, refrigeration, compressed air, lighting, pumping or industrial processes.

Energy FinAnswer Express (For Small Commercial, Industrial and Irrigation Facilities)

Pacific Power's FinAnswer Express Program includes incentives and technical assistance for lighting, motors and HVAC equipment upgrades that increase energy efficiency and exceed code requirements in commercial and industrial facilities.

Port Angeles Public Works & Utilities

(<https://www.cityofpa.us/pwConserv.htm#EHome>)

Solar Energy and Energy Efficiency Loan Program

The City of Port Angeles Public Works & Utilities offers a low-interest loan to its residential and commercial customers for energy efficiency improvements and certain renewable energy projects.

Puget Sound Energy (PSE) (www.pse.com)

Commercial Premium-Efficiency Motor Rebate Program

(www.pse.com/

[solutions/forbusiness/pages/comRebates.aspx?tab=5&chapter=2](http://www.pse.com/solutions/forbusiness/pages/comRebates.aspx?tab=5&chapter=2))

Puget Sound Energy offers rebates ranging from \$2 to \$20 per horsepower to their commercial customers for the installation of new premium-efficiency, three-phase motors

Snohomish County PUD No 1 (www.snopud.com)

Commercial and Industrial Energy Efficiency Rebate Program

Snohomish County PUD No 1 offers financial incentives to help offset the cost of its non-residential customers to increase the energy efficiency of their facilities.

Tacoma Power (www.mytpu.org)

Commercial and Industrial Energy Efficiency Rebate Programs

Tacoma Power offers its non-residential customers a variety of rebates and incentives for installing energy efficient technologies into their new or existing facilities.