

# LEGISLATIVE CONCEPT

**A concept proposed to the Renewable Energy Working Group (REWG)  
From the REWG Economic Development Committee – August 14, 2008**

Concept Subject/Title **Renewable Energy R&D, Commercialization & Manufacturing Grant Program**

Contact Person Bill Fashing

Phone No. \_\_\_\_\_

◆ BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THIS CONCEPT:

Implement a grant program to incent new investment and job creation for renewable energy firms conducting research, development, commercialization and manufacturing of products used in the generation of renewable energy. The proposal is to designate a fund of \$10,000,000 for distribution over the next 4 years. The funds would be used to assist firms in the renewable energy sector providing traded sector jobs. Funds could be used for plant, equipment, training and other startup related costs associated with expanding or new businesses. Firms would be eligible for grants of up to \$250,000. Value of grants would be based on 25% of an estimated annual average employment over five years following certification. Failure to meet employment and wage guidelines results in repayment of full grant. Direct wages are required to exceed 1.4 times per capita income of the County in which the facility is located.

◆ PURPOSE OF THIS CONCEPT (DESCRIBE PROBLEM YOU ARE TRYING TO SOLVE AND SUGGESTED SOLUTION):

Assist existing and new firms to create jobs and investment in this targeted industry sector. The incentive helps to position the state of Oregon as a world leader in renewable energy.

◆ POLICY IMPLICATIONS:

This is a targeted grant program focused on the renewable energy sector requiring a lump sum to be allocated for the program. Unused funds, if any, would be captured after a four year program.

◆ PARTNERS OR OTHER AGENCIES AFFECTED:

Agency:

Person you talked to about concept:

Phone:

◆ KNOWN SUPPORT

RENEWABLE ENERGY INDUSTRY

RENEWABLE ENERGY WORKING GROUP

◆ KNOWN OPPOSITION:

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◆ THIS CONCEPT: (Do not skip answers. Enter *none* or *N/A* as needed.)

Revises or repeals ORS Revises

Adds new sections to ORS Chapter \_\_\_\_\_

Check one:  Major program change     Minor program change     Technical correction/housekeeping only

Was previously proposed in: Year \_\_\_\_\_ as Bill No. \_\_\_\_\_

Why are you proposing it again (what changed)? \_\_\_\_\_

Is a PLACEHOLDER? No  Yes  Expected date of completion: \_\_\_\_\_

Reason not completed: \_\_\_\_\_

Is due to legal decision: Case cite: \_\_\_\_\_ or AGO No./date \_\_\_\_\_ (*attach copy*)

Raises fees or assessments? No  Yes  (*attach Fiscal Impact Estimate and form 107BF22*)

Imposes or adds to unfunded mandate on local governments? No  Yes  (*attach Fiscal Impact Estimate*)

Has other fiscal, revenue, or position impacts? No  Yes  (*attach Fiscal Impact Estimate*)

Have you discussed this Concept with your Attorney General liaison? No  Yes

