



# State Incentives for Achieving Clean and Renewable Energy Development on Contaminated Lands

The development of clean and renewable energy on formerly used land offers many economic and environmental benefits. Combining clean and renewable energy and contaminated land cleanup incentives can allow investors and communities to create economically viable clean and renewable energy redevelopment projects. This document provides information about incentives in your state that can be leveraged for clean and renewable energy and development of contaminated land.



## Incentives for Clean and Renewable Energy

### Funding (grants, loans, bonds, etc.)

#### Renewable Energy Fund (REF)

[www.energy.ri.gov/programs/renewable.php](http://www.energy.ri.gov/programs/renewable.php)

Provides low-interest loans and repayable grants to support the development of renewable energy systems.

#### REF: Photovoltaic Solar Opportunity

[www.energy.ri.gov/programs/renewable.php](http://www.energy.ri.gov/programs/renewable.php)

Provides partial grants, up to \$3 per watt for commercial projects and \$3.50 per watt for non-profit organizations, for the installation of solar PV systems of up to 25 kW on commercial, industrial, and institutional buildings.

### Tax Incentives (abatements, deductions, credits, etc.)

#### Sales Tax Exemption for Renewable Energy

[www.energy.ri.gov/programs/renewable.php](http://www.energy.ri.gov/programs/renewable.php)

Provides an exemption from the state's sales and use taxes for certain renewable energy systems and equipment, including solar electric systems, geothermal heat pumps, and wind turbines and towers. See Title 44: Taxation, Chapter 18: Sales and Use Taxes § 30, (57).

### Technical Assistance and Other Incentives

#### Renewable Energy Certificate Incentive

[www.massenergy.com/Solar.REC.Sale.html](http://www.massenergy.com/Solar.REC.Sale.html)

Mass Energy and People's Power & Light purchases renewable energy certificates (also known as green tags) at a rate of \$60 per MWh (or \$0.06 per kWh) from photovoltaic (PV) systems in Rhode Island for three years.

#### RIWINDS, RI Wind Alliance, RI Wind Mapper

[www.energy.ri.gov/programs/renewable.php](http://www.energy.ri.gov/programs/renewable.php)

In 2006, Rhode Island established the RIWINDS program to promote the development of wind energy in the state. Governor Carcieri set a goal of obtaining 20% of the state's energy from renewable resources by 2011. See the RIWINDS Wind Energy Siting Study at: [www.energy.ri.gov/documents/independence1/RIWINDSReport.pdf](http://www.energy.ri.gov/documents/independence1/RIWINDSReport.pdf). The Wind Alliance working group and Wind Mapper provide additional information on wind resources in Rhode Island.

#### Net Metering

[www.ripuc.state.ri.us](http://www.ripuc.state.ri.us)

Rhode Island investor-owned utilities offer net metering to all customers generating electricity with renewable energy systems or fuel cells of 1MW or less (1.65 MW for systems owned by cities, towns or the Narragansett Bay Commission).

#### Quick Facts

Public Benefit Fund (PBF)	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Renewable Portfolio Standard 16% by 2020	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Net Metering	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Interconnection Standards	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

#### Electric Power Industry Generation by Primary Energy Source (EIA, 2006)

Petroleum-Fired	0.5%	Nuclear	-
Natural Gas-Fired	96.9%	Hydroelectric	0.1%
Coal-Fired	-	Other Renewables	2.5%

#### Points of Contact

##### Office of Energy Resources

[www.energy.ri.gov](http://www.energy.ri.gov)

##### REF, Sales Tax Exemption for Renewable Energy, RIWINDS, RI Wind Alliance, RI Wind Mapper

Julie Capobianco, [JulieC@energy.ri.gov](mailto:JulieC@energy.ri.gov), (401) 574-9111

##### Mass Energy and People's Power & Light

[www.massenergy.com](http://www.massenergy.com)

##### Renewable Energy Certificate Incentive

Kelly Muellman, [kelly@massenergy.com](mailto:kelly@massenergy.com), (617) 524-3950

##### Public Utilities Commission

##### Net Metering

Thomas Ahern, [tahern@ripuc.state.ri.us](mailto:tahern@ripuc.state.ri.us), (401) 941-4500



# Incentives for Development of Contaminated Land



## Funding (grants, loans, bonds, etc.)

### Remedial Agreement Including Covenant Not to Sue

[www.dem.ri.gov/programs/benviron/waste/](http://www.dem.ri.gov/programs/benviron/waste/)

A remedial agreement that includes a covenant not to sue may be entered into by the state and a party that has taken their project far enough through the Remediation Program to receive a Remedial Decision Letter.

### Brownfields Cleanup Revolving Loan Fund (RLF)

[www.riedc.com/riedc/business\\_services/12/60/#additional](http://www.riedc.com/riedc/business_services/12/60/#additional)

Provides low-interest loans from \$50,000 to \$200,000, at below market rates and a maximum loan term of five years, to remediate eligible brownfield sites. Public, private, or non-profit entities are eligible. Grants are also available for non-profit organizations or eligible public entities.

## Technical Assistance and Other Incentives

### Targeted Brownfields Assessment (TBA) Program

[www.dem.ri.gov/brownfields/financial/index.htm#targetted](http://www.dem.ri.gov/brownfields/financial/index.htm#targetted)

Provides environmental assessments of brownfield properties for public or non-profit organizations (that partner with a public entity) acting as voluntary parties and that have redevelopment plans for a brownfield site. Recipients will receive a Site Investigation (SI) Report that will describe any potential environmental contamination on the property and put forth recommendations for the next phase of investigation, if necessary. Applications are selected on a competitive basis.

## Limitations on Liability

[www.dem.ri.gov/brownfields/documents/](http://www.dem.ri.gov/brownfields/documents/)

Provides liability protection (in the form of a covenant not to sue) to property owners against contamination found on-site after cleanup and redevelopment—unless the contamination occurs after cleanup—under the Industrial Property Remediation and Reuse Program.

### Quick Facts

Limitations on Liability	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
Number of State-Tracked Contaminated Properties:	1,666
Includes current and completed Voluntary Cleanup Sites	
Number of EPA CERCLIS Sites:	158
Sites identified for potential investigation under the federal Superfund Program	
Number of EPA Brownfields Properties:	64
Properties being funded or addressed under the EPA Brownfields Program	

*There may be some overlap among the categories listed and sites listed may not represent all potentially contaminated sites in Rhode Island.*

### Points of Contact

#### Department of Environmental Management (DEM)

[www.dem.ri.gov](http://www.dem.ri.gov)

#### Remedial Agreement Including Covenant Not to Sue

Kelly Owens, [kelly.owens@dem.ri.gov](mailto:kelly.owens@dem.ri.gov), (401) 222-2797 Ext. 7108

#### TBA Program

Cynthia Gianfrancesco, [cynthia.gianfrancesco@dem.ri.gov](mailto:cynthia.gianfrancesco@dem.ri.gov), (401) 222-2797 Ext. 7126

#### Rhode Island Economic Development Corporation (RIEDC)

[www.riedc.com](http://www.riedc.com)

#### Brownfields Cleanup RLF

William J. Parsons, [wparsons@riedc.com](mailto:wparsons@riedc.com), (401) 278-9100 Ext. 130