

Renewable Energy Action Plan Tasks

WORKING DRAFT - (5-5-06)

	General (cross-cutting) Tasks:	Purpose and Context	Status
1	Set priorities on actions where Oregon has an advantage or need greater than other states, define the role of major stakeholders, and estimate the budget impact and other funds needed.	Source unknown.	Ongoing Role of REWG
2	Assist in reaching the long- and short-term goals of this Plan and coordinate the implementation of the action items outlined in this Plan.	Included in State of Oregon Energy Plan (2005-2007)	Ongoing Role of REWG
3	Work with the Oregon's congressional delegation to support a national renewable portfolio standard (RPS), as well as support a federal cap on CO ₂ emissions or caps on the CO ₂ emissions per kWh of load-serving entities (emissions portfolio standards).	Source unknown.	ODOE has worked with the Oregon Congressional delegation on this in the past. No likelihood of RPS anytime soon. Possibility of federal CO ₂ cap. ODOE will monitor.
4	Work with the Oregon's congressional delegation to make sure that the federal Production Tax Credit and the Renewable Energy Production Incentive are maintained.	The federal tax credit and incentives encourage and help accelerate investments in renewable energy. The stop-and-go nature of the PTC renewals have a disastrous affect on the industry because long term manufacturing planning is impossible. This was included in State of Oregon Energy Plan (2005-2007).	ODOE has written letters and worked with the Congressional delegation on this in the past. Congressional staff liaisons have made themselves available for the REWG. Our Congressional members are supportive of PTC. This is a priority for ODOE.
5	Assess the feasibility and effectiveness of production-based incentives for electricity generated by small- to medium-scale renewable resource facilities.	Community (small- to medium-scale) renewable energy projects provide local long-term economic benefits. An RPS may make small- to medium-sized projects impossible, because they cannot participate in the utilities' RFP process.	Ongoing at staff level. Renewable Energy Production Payments Workshop arranged by ODOE staff, April 5, 2006, Salem. Presentations by Paul Gipe and ODOE staff. Previous debate on this topic in Wind Working Group meetings.
6	Assess the feasibility of a state Renewable Portfolio Standard and compare it with production-based incentives as to its effectiveness to encourage renewable energy development.	Governor's Action Plan for Energy (Feb. 24, 2006) Included in State of Oregon Energy Plan (2005-2007)	Production-based payment workshop held April 5. Previous debate in Wind Working Group meetings. ODOE staff has extensively researched RPS, feed laws, and similar. Ongoing debate in REWG.
7	Work with the state's consumer and privately owned utilities, the Northwest Power and Conservation Council and Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) to develop a process and protocols for expediting interconnection requests and developing more distributed generation.	The lack of uniform interconnection standards will mean an additional cost for the developers of distributed generation projects because each project will have to include engineering design that is costly and time consuming.	PUC will do rulemaking in summer of 2006. Legislation may be needed for COUs. Leadership from the REWG could jump start the development by encouraging a joint approach between the IOUs and COUs from the start.
8	Work with Oregon's congressional	Need to expand BPA role to its previous mid-90s	ODOE is engaged in ongoing regional dialog for BPA

	delegation, BPA and consumer-owned utilities to expand BPA's Conservation and Renewables Discount (C&RD) Program.	commitment of over \$200 million/year.	contract strategy for 2111 and beyond. Congressional delegation indicated support.
9	Work with BPA and consumer owned utilities to promote PURPA's Qualifying Facilities using renewable resources, while avoiding financial harm to the utilities such as a reduction in a utility's "net requirements" (loss of a portion of a utility's long term allocation).	The reduction in the "net requirements" is a major barrier and will continue to be. The removal of this rule is a necessary step in promoting distributed renewables in the COUs' territories	Step 1) PUC tariff to move power from COUs to IOUs is nearly complete. Step 2) Need willing party to work with developer and COU. Could provide them technical assistance. Have standard tariffs for 10 MW and under for standard qualifying facilities (QF) contracts similar to BPA's Conservation and Renewables Discount program. Could do a case study to share with other COUs.
10	Support research and demonstration projects that modernize the electric system by combining advanced telecommunications, information and control methods with the electricity infrastructure for more efficient (economically and environmentally) "smart" grid operation.	Several regional and nation-wide efforts are underway to demonstrate the benefits of "smart grid" technologies, including here in the Northwest.	At least one RD&D project supported by BETC tax credit program. Talks with other companies.
11	Explore whether transmission constraints for community owned renewable energy projects could be overcome if: (1) a new or upgraded, privately owned transmission project were to be slightly increased in size, and (2) that this increase would be reserved for such community-owned projects in exchange for a reduction in property taxes equal to the incremental costs for the transmission owner.	Transmission constraints are a major problem for large and small-scale wind farms and possibly other distributed technologies.	Interesting work is being done in Sherman County with the county working with PPM to allocate at least 50 MW for community-owned wind farms in combination with Klondike III expansion. This could serve as a template for other counties
12	Identify growing Oregon renewable energy businesses and assist them with expansion planning and workforce development.	From Economic Development (OECD)	Ongoing at ODOE and OECD. Economic Development is currently putting together a list.
13	Help improve coordination and provide tools to attract new renewable energy businesses to build facilities in Oregon.	From Economic Development (OECD)	Some work done by ODOE, OECD, etc.
14	Focus efforts to solidify the strength of a Brand Oregon renewable energy market for our technology services and commodities.	From Economic Development (OECD)	Unknown
15	Help develop a framework for valuation of environmental and other externalities.	Source unknown.	No work being done at agency level. Academic research in this area is common.