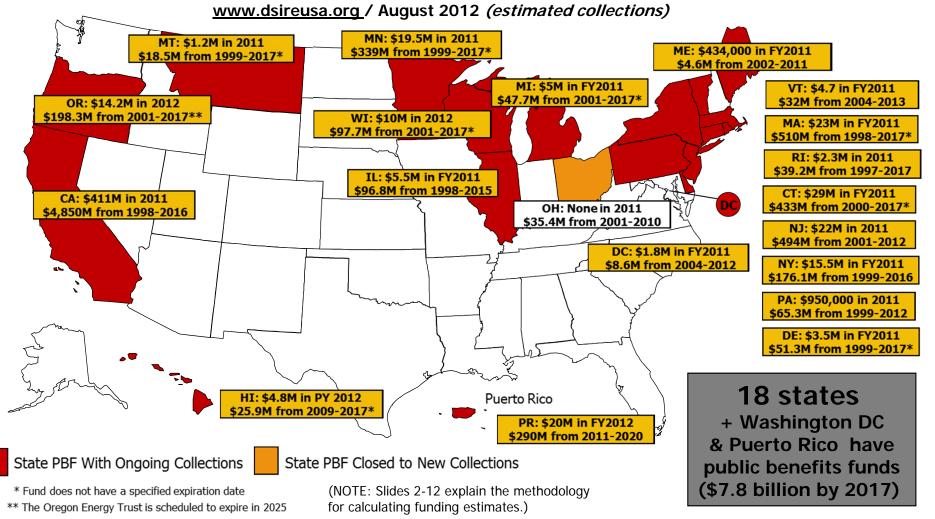


Public Benefits Funds for Renewables





Methodology

The preceding map generally includes only state funds supported by utility ratepayer surcharges, as opposed to funds supported by legislative appropriations. Federal funding, such as funding from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, is not included. Details -- and an explanation of exceptions -- are discussed in the following slides.

Sources of Uncertainty

- Some funds support both renewables and energy efficiency without clear guidance on how future funding will be allocated to each area.
- In some states, annual funding is tied to retail sales of electricity and/or natural gas, making future projections somewhat speculative.
- In some states, a portion of the fund may be seized by state officials for purposes other than renewable energy development.
- Future additions to many funds may be forthcoming in the form of alternative compliance payments (ACPs) under state renewable portfolio standard (RPS) policies, or with the auction of carbon emissions allowances as part of the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI).

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Notes on State Funds

California: The total budget estimate for California has two main components: the historic state PBF (1998-2011) and the more recent Go Solar California campaign (2007-2016).

For the 1998-2006 period, an annual figure of \$135 million was used for the historic state PBF. This figure is specified on the California Energy Commission (CEC) web site. Allocation adjustments and legislation passed in 2007 culminated in revised funding levels for the 2007-2011 period. The New Renewable Resources Account was cancelled as part of this legislation and remaining funding (\$461,681,784) in the account was refunded to the state's investor-owned utilities. According to the CEC, adjusted 2007 revenue from the state's three major investor-owned utilities totaled \$145.8 million in 2007 and \$72 million annually for each year thereafter until the scheduled sunset in 2011. A CPUC decision in December 2011 created a new fund, the Electric Program Investment Charge Fund (EPICF), to replace the historic state PBF. The CPUC plans to maintain the same level of funding in the interim, but additional action is required to implement the fund in full.

The Go Solar California campaign includes several programs: the California Initiative (CSI), the New Solar Homes Partnership (NSHP), and utility programs supporting renewables. CSI has a budget of \$2,367 million, NSHP has a budget of \$400 million, and municipal utility programs have a budget of \$784 million, resulting in a total budget of \$3,551 million over 10 years. According to program personnel, \$350 million was transferred from the historic PBF to the Go Solar Campaign. As revenue from the historic PBF is already included, this figure was subtracted from the total budget, resulting in a total budget of \$3,201 million over 10 years.

In addition to the sources of revenue described above, Bear Valley Electric, a smaller investor-owned utility, has voluntarily contributed surcharge-based revenues to the historic PBF, totaling an estimated \$615,000 as of June 30, 2011. State-wide voluntary contributions have added roughly \$23,000 as of June 30, 2011.



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Connecticut: Prior to July 2011, Connecticut Innovations administered the Connecticut Clean Energy Fund (CCEF). The Fund utilized a variety of funding mechanisms to support the mission of the CCEF, including grants and rebates, convertible debt, equity investments and subsidies for various ventures. With the passage of Senate Bill 1243 in July 2011, CCEF is now its own quasipublic state agency called Clean Energy Finance and Investment Authority (CEFIA).

Values correspond to actual funds collected by the CCEF from Fiscal Years 2000 – 2010. Funding for the CEFIA for Fiscal Years 2011-2017 is expected to be \$29 million annually for future years. This figure is down slightly from previous estimates of \$30 million annually. Total funding levels and estimates were based on a review of annual reports and communication with Clean Energy Finance and Investment Authority personnel.

Connecticut signed on to the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI), and the auction of carbon emissions allowances has contributed over \$8,000,000 to the fund thus far. It is estimated that RGGI auctions are not expected to exceed \$500,000 in additional revenue per quarter in future years. This is down from \$1 million a quarter in previous years. RGGI funding is not included in the overall estimate for Connecticut.

District of Columbia: DC's original public benefits fund, the Reliable Energy Trust Fund (RETF), supported a wide range of programs. Of these, only the Renewable Electricity Demonstration Program offered specific support for renewable energy. From 2005-2008, a total of four solicitations provided approximately \$800,000 in funding for renewable energy demonstration projects. In 2008, the RETF was replaced by the Sustainable Energy Trust Fund under the Clean and Affordable Energy Act (CAEA) of 2008. CAEA also authorized the creation of a Renewable Energy Incentive Program (REIP), which replaced the previous demonstration program, and was originally authorized at \$2 million annually for Fiscal Years 2009-2012. In 2010 and 2011 several pieces of legislation amended the original act to modify Fiscal Year 2011 funding levels, ultimately arriving at a figure of \$1,090,600. The Clean and Affordable Energy Fiscal Year 2011 Fund Balance Emergency Amendment Act of 2011 was passed in an effort to provide an addition \$700,000 in available funding for 51 pre-qualified for the REIP bringing FY2011 funding back to \$1,790,600.

In March 2011, the DC Council gave final approval to the Sustainable Energy Utility (SEU) contract, a key component of the Clean and Affordable Energy Act. The SEU contract, which is designed to administer sustainable energy programs in DC including the REIP, was awarded to Vermont Energy Investment Corporation. The implementation of the SEU holds the potential to change future funding levels and/or allocations for renewable energy versus energy efficiency. Total funding levels were based on a review of quarterly reports, assistance from DC Solar United Neighborhoods, and communications with District Department of the Environment personnel. The fund is scheduled to continue to be funded through utility surcharges until FY2012.



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Delaware: Three separate green energy funds exist in Delaware. The largest is funded by Delmarva Power, the state's only investor-owned utility, while the other two generate revenue from electricity sold by the state's municipal (DEMEC) and the Delaware Electric Cooperative (DEC).

Delmarva Power's Green Energy Fund collected \$2,997,548 in FY2010 and \$2,700,000 in FY2011. For FY2012 and beyond, annual funding levels are estimated at \$3 million, as recommended by the Delaware Energy Office. Funding levels for the Delaware Municipal Electric Corporation's Municipal Green Energy Fund for FY2009 totaled \$319,189 and \$377,181 for FY2010. These figures were based on a review of FY2010 financial statements. For 2011 and future years funding was estimated at \$345,000 based on past collections and historic retail sales.

Delaware Electric Cooperative (DEC) funding levels are comprised of the \$.000178/kWh surcharge and additional supplemental contributions to total roughly \$40,000 in contributions to the Green Fund monthly. Money raised from the standard surcharge amounts to roughly \$206,000 annually based on historic retail sales. Since the DEC is a cooperative and by definition in a non-profit, the supplemental funding was also included in the estimate because at its basis it is raised from ratepayers. Varying from previous years, 100% of the estimated \$480,000 in funding is available to renewable energy projects (an allocation of 40% was used in the past, but according to DEC personnel this changed in 2009). These figures are based off of communications with DEC and the Delaware Energy Office.

None of the funds has a defined expiration date. In 2007, Delaware established a Sustainable Energy Utility, which holds the potential to change future funding levels and/or allocations for renewable energy versus energy efficiency. In addition, Delaware has signed on to the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI), however based off of information from the State Energy Office, it is unlikely that RGGI funds will be directed to the Green Energy Fund Program in the near future.

Hawaii: Hawaii has had a utility-administered solar water heater rebate program since June 1996. In 2006, legislation created a public benefits fund based on a utility surcharge. Until July 2009, the public benefits fund programs were administered by the individual utilities and funding was not included in this research project. In July 2009, the public benefits fund program administration transferred to a third-party administrator and now all programs are administered centrally. The majority of the incentives are for energy efficiency improvements; the only program that targets renewable energy is the solar water heater rebate program. There is no set budget for this program. In 2010, around \$2.8 million was spent. An estimate of \$2.6 million is used for 2011 and each year going forward except 4.8M is used for the 2012-2013 Program Year.



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Illinois: The Illinois Renewable Energy Resources Trust Fund (RERTF) began collections in 1998 and is scheduled to sunset in December 2015. An annual figure of \$5.5 million was extracted from annual reports and used for all years during the fund lifetime. During FY2009, approximately \$2.2 million was taken from RERTF by the legislature for a governor's initiative. Consequently, there was diminished funding in 2009, but funding returned to previous levels in 2010 and program personnel expect that funding will remain normal in future years. Because the customer surcharge that generates income for the fund is based on a flat monthly rate for different classes of customers, the total revenue is consistent from year to year. All funding in the RERTF is allocated for renewable energy. A separate fund supports energy efficiency incentives and programs.

Massachusetts: A total revenue figure of \$150 million was used for 1998-2002, \$25 million per year was assumed from 2003-2010, and \$23 million per year is assumed from 2011 going forward. The accuracy of these values was confirmed by program personnel at the Massachusetts Technology Collaborative (MTC), which previously administered the Renewable Energy Trust Fund. The fund's administration has now shifted over to the Massachusetts Clean Energy Center (MassCEC). The fund is wholly dedicated to renewable energy and has no defined expiration date. Alternative compliance payments from the state RPS represent possible future additions to the fund.

Michigan: Michigan's Low-Income Energy Efficiency Fund (LIEEF) supports low-income assistance and energy efficiency to a greater extent than renewable energy. The annual funding level is about \$89 million, based upon prescriptive annual contributions from DTE, Consumers Energy, and Michigan Consolidated Gas Company. However, the LIEEF has no specific mandate to fund renewable energy projects so funding for renewables is contingent on the issue of a request for proposals (RFP). To date, RFPs including renewables as eligible technologies have been issued totaling \$36.8 million. This figure includes two RFPs for FY2011 both for \$5 million. The RFPs were for both energy efficiency and renewable energy, so it is assumed that 50% went toward each, for a total of \$5 million to be used for renewable energy in FY2011. Funding for FY2011 may be lower or higher than assumed here, as all grantees were awarded funding for both renewable energy and energy efficiency improvements and did not specify in detail how funding would be spent. Funding for renewable energy depends on the issuance of another RFP that supports renewables, so funding past FY2011 is speculative. Through FY2011, renewable energy projects received an estimated \$24,781,626, or 4.3% of total funding (\$577,160,324) offered from FY2002-FY2010, yielding a funding estimate of \$3,827,000 annually for FY2012 onwards. The LIEEF does not have a defined expiration date.



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Maine: Maine established a rebate program for solar thermal, solar electric, and small wind systems through legislation. This rebate program is supported by a system benefits charge (SBC) administered by Efficiency Maine Trust; however, Maine's mandatory surcharge-supported renewable energy fund expired at the end of calendar year 2010. The cumulative value shown on the map was generated using several sources: year-end fund assets from annual electricity restructuring reports, voluntary contributions as reported by program administrators, values of grants issued, and the budget for the rebate program. The total funding for this program is \$2.75 million, with \$250,000 in 2005, and \$500,000 for each year through 2010. The \$250,000 allocated for 2005 was not used until 2008. Voluntary contributions in Maine totaled \$132,332 in FY2010, and the fund also received revenue of \$693,103 in FY2010 from alternative compliance payments (ACP) under Maine's RPS. This leads to a total 2010 income estimate of \$1.325 million. Money from ARRA also supplemented programs supported by this fund, but the ARRA funding was not included here. In 2012, legislation was enacted to include support for energy efficiency under the fund, effective July 2012.

Minnesota: The Xcel Renewable Development Fund (RDF) collected \$8.5 million annually from 1999-2002 and \$16 million annually thereafter in accordance with state legislation regarding spent fuel storage at Xcel Energy's Prairie Island Nuclear Plant. If 32 or more casks are stored at the plant (scheduled to happen in 2012), Xcel will be required to contribute \$500,000 per cask to the fund. The cumulative estimate assumes that the plant will be relicensed, and a schedule for cask storage provided by program personnel was used to estimate annual funding: \$16,000,000 for 2011-2012, \$17,000,000 for 2013, \$18,500,000 for 2014-2015, \$20,000,000 for 2016, \$21,500,000 for 2018, and \$23,000,000 for 2019-2010.

Separately, under Minnesota law, Xcel must also contribute \$350,000 per dry cask per year for spent fuel storage at the Monticello nuclear plant. Annual funding estimates of \$3.5 million for 2008 – 2012, \$7 million for 2013 – 2015, and \$10.5 million thereafter were provided by program personnel. A total of \$10 million has been subtracted from the overall value of the fund to account for the Mesaba/Excelsior Coal Gasification Project, which was chosen for funding during the initial round of RDF proposals. The RDF does not have a defined expiration date, notwithstanding the funding uncertainties discussed above.

Montana: Northwestern Energy collects approximately \$9.1 million annually and allocates approximately \$1.2 million annually for renewable energy under the Universal System Benefits (USB) program. From 1999 through 2008, approximately \$750,000 was available for renewables. The amount collected varies each year as it is based on electricity loads. The USB began in 1999 and was set to expire at the end of 2009. However, legislation passed in March 2009 has extend this program by removing the expiration date. A smaller fund maintained by Montana-Dakota Utilities provides rebates for energy efficiency, but not for renewable energy.



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New Jersey: Estimates of renewable energy funding in New Jersey are complicated by several factors, including significant carryover funds from prior years; revenue additions from solar alternative compliance payments (SACPs) and interest; and several instances of legislative "raiding" of the fund for other purposes. Budget figures for 2001-2008 were extracted from historic New Jersey Board of Public Utilities (BPU) documents, reports, and orders. Values for 2009-2011 were taken from Clean Energy Fund Budget Orders. The figure used for 2009 starts with an initial new funding value of \$78.3M as authorized by the initial 2009 BPU Budget Order. It has been adjusted to account for a transfer of \$40M out of the fund via legislative appropriation; a transfer of SACP revenue totaling \$38.9M into the fund; and other more minor changes (interest, other transfers out) which net to \$3.6M and were allocated to the renewable energy budget. The combined effect is to increase 2009 funding to \$80.8M.

For 2010, new funding was estimated using the total 2010 approved budget for renewable energy programs as approved in the BPU's first revised 2010 budget order (\$270.3M) and subtracting the actual amount of carry-over funds (\$198M). This leads to an initial 2010 new funding estimate of \$72.3M. However, in 2010 a total of \$87M was transferred out of the fund for other purposes by Governor's Executive Order and an additional \$5.9M was transferred from the renewable energy budget to the energy efficiency budget. This transfer of \$92.9M has been subtracted from cumulative 1997-2017 funding.

For 2011, a value of \$26M in new funding was taken from the initial 2011 BPU Budget Order, composed of \$11M in renewables specific funding and \$15M in funding for New Jersey EDA programs which support renewables. Two separate transfers out of the fund during 2011 totaled roughly \$11M or 8.1% of the total budget (\$135.2M including carry-over funding). The 2011 new funding estimate has been adjusted to reflect an 8.1% reduction (\$2.1M) in new funding, treating the reduction as affecting carry-over funding and new funding equally. This leads to a revised new funding estimate of \$23.9M for 2011. The cumulative 1997-2017 figure has been adjusted to reflect the total reduction of \$11M.

A funding estimate for 2012 was taken from the 2012 Final Budget Order issued in December 2011. It includes \$20M in new funding dedicated specifically for renewables and an additional \$2M in new funding for the New Jersey Economic Development Authority (EDA) Edison Innovation Clean Energy Manufacturing Fund, which supports both renewables and energy efficiency technologies. It does not include an allocation of \$55M for a new 2012 program targeting large CHP and fuel cell systems. A further \$331.5M was transferred out of the fund by the legislature in June 2012, affecting both the 2012 and 2013 budgets. Revisions to the renewable energy budget have not been finally determined, therefore the estimates do not reflect this reduction.

Absent further transfers out of the fund, the cumulative 1997-2017 figure shown on the graph most likely underestimates the total amount of funding over this time period because it does not include any funding beyond 2012. As of this writing an FY2014 – 2017 straw proposal budget that would provide a total of \$80M (\$20M annually) for renewable energy is open for comment.



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New York: New York's public benefit fund budget is divided into four discrete increments consistent with program renewals and re-designs. SBC I spanned 1999-2001; SBC II spanned 2002-2006; SBC III spanned 2007-2011; and SBC IV is scheduled to span 2012 – 2016. Operations beyond 2016 are contingent on reauthorization by the New York Public Service Commission (PSC). Values through 2011 were extracted from the 13-year budget figures in the March 2011 Quarterly Program Evaluation and Status Report. For SBC I, II, and III, New York's renewable energy programs are included under the general classification of research and development within the reports but not all programs within this category apply to renewable energy. The programs included in the cumulative map estimate are as follows: Clean Energy Infrastructure (SBC III, succeeds End-Use Renewables in SBC I, II, and III), Wholesale Renewable Energy (SBC I, II, and III), and Innovative Opportunities Geothermal Heat Pumps (SBC I).

For SBC IV, values were extracted from the PSC's October 2011 Order approving NYSERDA's 2012 – 2016 SBC IV Operating Plan. As in prior years, various SBC IV programs may support renewable energy in one form or another, but there exists no specific renewable energy budget. Based on the NYSERDA program descriptions, the programs which appear most closely tied to renewable energy are the Advanced Clean Power Program and the Clean Energy Business Development Program. The estimate used in the map assumes that funding for the Advanced Clean Power Program is wholly devoted to renewable energy, and that funding for the Clean Energy Business Development Program is split equally between renewable energy and energy efficiency related activities.

Although not included in the estimate shown on the map, \$107.6 million was available for Customer-Sited Tier (CST) rebates from 2007-2009, funded by an RPS surcharge separate from the SBC surcharge. A total of roughly \$519.5 million has been authorized for 2010-2015 for the CST program and a related RPS program aimed at resolving geographic imbalance issues in clean energy development. Incentives for these types of systems were formerly included under the End-Use Renewables designation. In addition, the estimate notably does not include funding dedicated to the DG-CHP Program and the Next Generation and Emerging Technologies programs, totaling a combined \$191.9 million over the 13-year life of SBC I, II, and III program. It likewise does not include many SBC IV programs (e.g., a renewed CHP program) and as a consequence comprises only roughly 11% of the full \$468.9 million in authorized funding for SBC IV.



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Ohio: The Ohio Advanced Energy Fund was authorized to collect \$15 million annually from 2001-2005 and \$5 million annually from 2006-2010, as specified in the enabling legislation. The official collection expiration was set at the sooner of January 1, 2011 or when collections reached the \$100 million mark (including interest). Fund collections have now ceased and notably, as of this writing the related incentive programs were closed as well. Incentives may become available in the fall of 2011. As of March 2011, the fund had collected a total of \$96.3 million, and with interest and other revenue, the program reached its total cap of \$100 million. Through September 30, 2009 a total of \$29.3 million had been transferred out of the fund for other purposes. Assuming actual collections are similar to maximum collections, total collections minus existing transfers amount to a total of \$70.7 million over the life of the fund.

The fund makes no specific allocation for renewable energy as opposed to energy efficiency, so it is difficult to estimate future funding availability. Based on the official listing of awards from August 2004 - March 2010, which total \$46.1 million, the funding breakdown between renewables and energy efficiency has been roughly even. This leads to an annual estimate of \$2.5 million for 2010 and total collections of \$35.35 million for renewable energy over the lifetime of the fund. Although the fund has now ceased collecting new revenue, incentives may be available during 2011 using funds collected in prior years that have not been appropriated for other purposes.

Oregon: Oregon's two largest investor-owned electric utilities, Pacific Power and Portland General Electric, contribute revenue to the Energy Trust of Oregon through a 3% public purpose charge, of which 19% of the revenues are allocated towards renewable energy. Two gas utilities, NW Natural Gas and Cascade Natural Gas also contribute revenue to the Energy Trust of Oregon through a public purpose charge, but the revenue from these utilities goes towards energy efficiency programs. Actual revenue figures were used from 2001-2010; these figures were provided by program personnel. For 2012, \$14,200,000 was used, as this is the 2012 approved budget for renewables. In 2013 and beyond, program personnel recommended using an estimate of \$14.2 million; this is also the estimate used in Energy Trust's 2013 budget projection. The fund is scheduled to expire in 2025.



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Pennsylvania: Five separate sustainable energy funds exist in Pennsylvania, originally funded at \$55 million by restructuring settlements with state utilities (PPL, PECO, Metropolitan Edison, Penelec, and West Penn). Revenue from the initial settlement and subsequent additions has taken the form of both annual payments and lump-sum payments at different times. Currently, the West Penn fund is the only fund still open to new revenue. It received approximately \$1.9 million in new revenue in 2010 according to program personnel. The other funds do not have new sources of revenue. Future revenue for the West Penn fund will continue at the same level during 2012 under the terms of a settlement agreement stemming from a merger between FirstEnergy and Allegheny Energy. With one exception, none of the past settlement payment agreements specify the portion of funding that should be devoted to renewable energy.

Total funding levels were based on a review of settlement documents, annual reports and communication with fund personnel. With the exception of future payments into the West Penn fund, these numbers represent actual payments rather than estimates. Estimates of the portion available for renewable energy were generated using historic activity as described in annual reports. The percentages used for each fund are: Metropolitan Edison (90%), Penelec (85%), West Penn (50%), PECO (50%) and PPL (50%). A total of \$18.5 million was not included in the percentage allocation calculation for the PECO fund because the settlement agreement specifically designated that amount towards several renewable energy projects. The 50% multiplier described above was applied only to the remainder of the revenue collected by the PECO fund. The multiplier was also applied to ongoing revenue for the West Penn fund, leading to an annual revenue estimate of \$950,000 for 2011 and 2012.

It is important to note that our assessment of Pennsylvania's public benefits fund does not include funding under the Pennsylvania Alternative Energy Investment Fund authorized in July 2008. Although this \$650 million fund will support many of the same types of programs typically funded by traditional public benefits funds (e.g., rebates, loans, grants, etc.), it will be funded primarily through a state bond issuance as opposed to a ratepayer surcharge.

Puerto Rico: Puerto Rico created its public benefits fund in 2010 to support "green energy" development and usage; collections are not from rate payers, rather from excise taxes collected on motor vehicles and motorcycles. The schedule is set FY2012: \$20,000,000; FY2013 \$20,000,000; FY2014: \$25,000,000; FY2015: \$30,000,000; FY2016: \$35,000,000; FY2017 thru FY2020: \$40,000,000 for a total of \$290 Million dollars. It should be noted that the law includes a provision for funds to be transferred to general fund, if needed.



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Rhode Island: From 1996-2002, Rhode Island Renewable Energy Fund (RIREF) was administered by Narragansett Electric, the state's only investor-owned utility. Budget information for this period was obtained from representatives of National Grid, which now owns Narragansett Electric. The figures presented in the cumulative estimate include both used and unused funds that were budgeted specifically for renewables beginning in 1997. Funds remaining at the end of 2002 were committed to the state energy office. The RIREF began collecting revenue in 2003 and generates approximately \$2.25 million per year, according to program personnel and annual reports. For 2003 through 2008, \$2.2 million was used. For 2009 and subsequent years through the end of 2017, \$2.3 million was used. The surcharge supporting the fund is scheduled to expire on December 31, 2017. Rhode Island participates in the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI), and the auction of carbon emission allowances may provide additional revenue in the future.

Vermont: Vermont's Clean Energy Development Fund has received \$1.3 to \$7.2 million annually, pursuant to two memoranda of understanding (MOUs) between the Vermont Department of Public Services (DPS) and Entergy, the owner of the Vermont Yankee nuclear power plant. A total of \$1.3 million was authorized to fund programs prior to 2007. For FY2007 and FY2008 an average annual payment of \$6.6 million was assumed and deemed appropriate by program personnel. Funding was slightly reduced for FY2009 because \$1.2 million was taken by the legislature. Consequently, the budget for FY2009 was \$5.2 million. FY2010 funding was reduced to \$4.3 million, \$4.7 million for FY2011, and \$3 million for FY2012. The MOUs expired in March 2012, and only a small payment of \$300,000 is expected in FY2013.

Wisconsin: Values for the 2002-2007 period were extracted from annual reports published by the Wisconsin Energy Conservation Corporation (WECC), which administers the Wisconsin Focus on Energy Renewable Energy (FOE) program. Beginning in July 2007, FOE will receive funding corresponding to 1.2% of the latest three-year average of retail natural gas and electricity sales. The \$5.5 million value assumed for 2008 reflects a July 2007 - December 2008 budget of \$8.3 million, which is roughly 8% of the overall FOE budget for this period. This 18-month budget is part of a transition to a calendar year allocation system; these estimates were provided by the WECC. In 2009, the total program budget was \$7.9 million as specified by program personnel. In 2010, the total program budget is \$8.16 million, as specified by program personnel. The total budget for 2011 is \$100 million, with \$7.6 million going toward renewables. A total budget of \$94.7 million and a renewable energy allocation of 8% was used as a basis to estimate an annual renewable energy program budget of \$7.6 million from 2012 onward. However, in 2012, Docket 5-GF-2012 increased renewables spending to \$10 million a year for 2012-2014. The FOE program does not have a specified expiration date.