

4.13.0001-A Review Process for Open Solicitation Renewable Energy Projects

History			
Source	Date	Action/Notes	Next Review Date
Board Decision	April 30, 2003	Approved (R183)	April 2006
Board Policy Committee	April 2006	No change	April 2009

Purpose

To clarify and establish a formal review process for renewable energy projects proposed through the Open Solicitation Program.

Background

The Open Solicitation Program was established following discussion by the board at its January 30, 2002, meeting.

In early 2002 the Renewable Energy Advisory Council recommended establishing a procedure for considering and funding unsolicited proposals. Their intentions included:

- Quick implementation
- Fund good ideas that languish for want of a little push
- Fund new technologies in established applications
- Fund old technologies in new applications
- Establish an ongoing path for projects that do not fit criteria for subsequent Energy Trust programs

The application form establishes both general and specific criteria for evaluation. These criteria include: location, viability, replicability, energy generation, leverage/partnership, expansion potential, market transformation, environmental benefits, best practices, education and capability expansion. Staff evaluates the proposals based on these criteria and the guidelines above. The staff review includes resource, engineering and financial data as appropriate to evaluate project feasibility and chances for success. Staff generally requests additional information for about half of the proposals received.

If the final information is complete and the proposal meets the criteria, staff calculates the above-market costs of the proposed project and compares these to the request. We use the approved methodology but also calculate alternate views of the market value of the power (if the appropriate data exist). Typically, recommendations are presented to the Renewable Energy Advisory Council for discussion. This has been presented in a structured format for larger projects and as general

conversations for smaller projects. On occasion, the council has taken straw votes to help draw wide-ranging discussions to a conclusion.

RESOLUTION

BE IT RESOLVED: That the Energy Trust of Oregon, Inc., Board of Directors hereby approves the following review and approval process for projects brought forward under the renewable energy Open Solicitation program:

1. Projects proposed for \$50,000 or less of Energy Trust funding may be approved by the executive director.
2. Projects proposed for between \$50,000 and \$125,000 of funding will be placed on a consent agenda for board action, unless a member of the board asks to have a specific proposed project placed on the regular agenda.
3. Projects proposed for over \$125,000 of funding will be presented for board action on the regular board agenda. Subsequent board approval would be required if the contract implementing an approved project is over \$500,000.
4. The Renewable Energy Advisory Council will review all projects over \$50,000 that staff recommends for funding.
5. A summary of any project under \$50,000 approved by staff will be provided subsequently to the board and RAC.

Moved by: Rick Applegate Seconded by: John Reynolds

Vote: 6 in favor; 1 opposed; 1 abstained

Adopted on April 30, 2003, by the Energy Trust of Oregon, Inc., Board of Directors.