

**NEW BUILDINGS
2008 PARTICIPANT MANUAL**

Solar Incentives and the New Buildings Program Policies and Procedures

1. SOLAR PROGRAMS/NEW BUILDINGS PROGRAM OVERVIEW

1.1 INTRODUCTION

Energy Trust’s Solar program provides incentives for solar electric and solar water heating projects. The New Buildings program provides assistance to project owners, architects, engineers, contractors and others involved in commercial and industrial new construction and major renovation projects. Projects that install energy efficiency measures in their project may be eligible for cash incentives and technical assistance.

Often a project will want to install both high efficiency energy measures AND renewable energy in the form of solar PV or solar water heating. This manual will help guide your project through the process of receiving incentives from both the New Buildings program and the Solar program.

In cases where there is a conflict between this manual and an incentive application’s terms and conditions, the latter shall take precedence.

1.2 PROJECT ELIGIBILITY

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS:

To be eligible to receive incentives from both the Solar program and the New Buildings program a project must meet **ALL** of the following criteria:

The project must be served by Portland General Electric or Pacific Power to receive incentives for electric measures and NW Natural or Cascade Natural Gas to receive incentives for gas measures.	<input type="checkbox"/>
The project must pay or plan to pay the public purposes charge.	<input type="checkbox"/>
The project site must be located in Oregon.	<input type="checkbox"/>
The project must be new construction, an addition, tenant buildout, or a major renovation to an existing structure.	<input type="checkbox"/>
The project must be a commercial, industrial, manufacturing or institutional building.	<input type="checkbox"/>

Eligible building types may include office, retail, health care and hospitals, warehouse or storage, restaurant, manufacturing, grocery, hotels and motels, public and private schools or colleges, mixed-use, high-rise multifamily residential (4+ stories) and parking garages.

SELF-DIRECTING CUSTOMERS

Under its agreement with the Oregon Public Utilities Commission (OPUC), the Energy Trust receives and invests some of the funds generated by the public purpose charge collected from the customers of PGE and Pacific Power. New Buildings program and Solar program services are limited and restrictions apply to self-directing customers. Participants can find a complete copy of the Energy Trust’s self-direction policy at <http://www.energytrust.org/library/policies/4.10.000.pdf>.

2. SOLAR/NEW BUILDINGS PROCESS AND REQUIREMENTS

2.1 GENERAL INFORMATION

SOLAR INCENTIVES FOR COMMERCIAL PROJECTS – Solar incentives can be combined with New Buildings’ incentives for commercial building projects. The incentive structure shown below demonstrates the range of incentives available.

Solar Electric	New Buildings Program Track	Portland General Electric (PGE)	Pacific Power (PPL)
	Standard, Custom, ENERGY STAR®, LEED® NC	Varies from \$1.25-\$1.50/watt, up to \$125,000	Varies from \$1.00-\$1.25/watt, up to \$100,000

Solar Water Heating	New Buildings Program Track	Electric Backup Water Heating (PGE and Pacific Power)	Gas Backup Water Heating (NW Natural and Cascade Natural Gas)
	Standard, Custom, ENERGY STAR	\$0.40/kWh	\$6.00/therm
	LEED® NC	\$0.30/kWh	\$5.20/therm

Solar Pool Heating	New Buildings Program Track	Gas Backup Pool Heating (NW Natural and Cascade Natural Gas)
	Standard, Custom, ENERGY STAR	\$1.50/therm
	LEED® NC	\$0.70/therm

APPROVED SOLAR CONTRACTORS – Solar incentives can **ONLY** be received when a project uses an Energy Trust approved solar Trade Ally contractor. A list of the approved solar Trade Allies is available on the Energy Trust website. *The New Buildings program does not require an approved Trade Ally for energy efficiency projects.*

COMBINING SOLAR WITH NEW BUILDINGS PROJECTS – When installing both energy efficiency measures that qualify for the New Buildings program and renewable energy measures that qualify for the Solar program, a project will need to submit the required New Buildings application forms and documentation to the New Buildings program and the required Solar application forms and documentation to the Solar Program.

Any New Buildings project that has a question regarding solar incentives should be directed to the Solar Program at 503-445-7640.

SOLAR WITH A STANDARD TRACK PROJECT – Solar incentives can be combined with a Standard Track project. The solar incentive is in addition to the incentive for energy efficiency measures received through the Standard Track. The project may receive Solar and New Buildings incentives at different times due to varied completion requirements.

INCENTIVE RESTRICTION WITH STANDARD PROJECTS: If a project is receiving incentives for both solar water heating and high efficiency gas water heater(s), the solar savings must be calculated using the efficient water heaters as the baseline.

Example: Project X is installing two high efficiency gas water heaters and a solar water heater. The gas water heaters will receive the prescriptive Standard Track incentive. The solar water heater will receive a \$6.00/therm incentive based on a solar performance calculation provided by the engineer or solar Trade Ally. The calculation will demonstrate the fraction of the hot water load remaining after the efficient gas water heaters are installed that will be met by the solar water heater.

SOLAR WITH A CUSTOM TRACK PROJECT – Solar incentives can be combined with a Custom Track project. The solar incentive is in addition to the incentive for energy efficiency measures received through the Custom Track. The project may receive Solar and New Buildings incentives at different times due to varied completion requirements.

INCENTIVE RESTRICTION WITH CUSTOM TRACK PROJECTS: As with Standard Track projects, if a project is receiving incentives for both solar water heating and high efficiency gas water heater(s), the solar savings must be calculated using the efficient water heaters as the baseline.

SOLAR WITH A LEED® NC TRACK PROJECT – Solar incentives can be combined with a LEED NC track project. The solar incentive is in addition to the incentive for energy efficiency measures received through the LEED® NC Track. The project may receive Solar and New Buildings incentives at different times due to varied completion requirements.

INCENTIVE RESTRICTION WITH LEED® NC PROJECTS: As demonstrated in the incentive charts, LEED® NC projects will receive a reduced incentive for solar water heating and solar pool heating applications. The incentive reduction is equal to \$0.10/kWh and \$0.80/therm. This reduction is equal to the incentive provided to the project by the New Buildings program LEED® NC track, which is based on the whole-building energy savings, including savings from solar. The solar incentive is reduced to avoid paying two incentives for the same measure.

SOLAR WITH AN ENERGY STAR TRACK PROJECT – Solar incentives cannot be combined with an ENERGY STAR Track project. Because the ENERGY STAR Track is a post-construction incentive, the solar project will be considered a “stand alone” project. Incentives for such solar projects should be coordinated directly with the Energy Trust solar program.