Board Decision
Add Wind Projects to Mature Technologies Track of Open Solicitation Program

September 2, 2009

Purpose
Add wind projects to the "mature technologies" track of the Open Solicitation Program.

Background

- The Open Solicitation Program was established by the board in 2002 to solicit novel renewable technologies. Because of their novelty, these projects go through an extensive review and approval process, including board approval of any projects involving incentives of $50,000 or more.
- In May, the Board added a "mature technologies" track to the Open Solicitation Program to allow a lower level of scrutiny for replicable, scalable projects with established technologies. The mature technologies track requires board approval only for projects involving more than $500,000 in incentives.
- The board assigned hydropower for the mature technologies track and said that it would consider adding additional technologies in the future.

Discussion
- For wind projects of 20 megawatts and less, Energy Trust provides:
  - cash and support for on-site use;
  - funding for local projects that deliver power to the grid;
  - resource assessment through anemometer loans to help landowners determine sites' wind generation potential;
  - co-funding for feasibility studies and technical analyses; and
  - outreach and education to promote the use of wind technology.
- Wind and Open Solicitation projects larger than one megawatt are few in number and often experience permitting and development challenges that make their timing unpredictable. A large project incentive can represent a significant portion of a program budget.
- Wind technologies are well established, as are the requirements, standards, and trade ally structure for small wind project development.
- Staff will treat the two "mature technologies" (hydropower and wind) as part of the Open Solicitation Program budget, so that staff may move funds among program technologies to take advantage of market conditions.

Recommendation

Include wind technologies in the mature technologies track.

RESOLUTION 524
ADDING WIND TO THE “MATURE TECHNOLOGIES” TRACK OF THE OPEN SOLICITATION PROGRAM

WHEREAS:

1. **In May, the Board added a “mature technologies” track to the Open Solicitation Program to allow a lower level of scrutiny for projects with established technologies. The mature technologies track requires board approval only for projects involving more than $500,000 in incentives.**
2. **Wind technologies for projects of 20-megawatts and less are well established, as are the Energy Trust program requirements, standards, and trade ally structure for project development.**
3. **Energy Trust support for such projects includes:**
    a. **Cash and support for on-site use;**
    b. **Funding for local projects that deliver power to the grid;**
    c. **Resource assessment through anemometer loans to help landowners determine sites’ wind generation potential;**
    d. **Co-funding for feasibility studies and technical analyses; and**
    e. **Outreach and education to promote the use of wind technology.**

It is therefore RESOLVED that the board of directors of Energy Trust of Oregon, Inc. adds wind projects of 20 megawatts and less to the “mature technologies” track of the Open Solicitation program.

Moved by: Seconded by:

Vote: In favor: Abstained:

Opposed: [list name(s) and, if requested, reason for "no" vote]