2010 Accomplishments: Other Renewables

November 17, 2010

Projects

- Our first geothermal project was completed and paid this year. The 280 kW project at the Oregon Institute of Technology campus in Klamath Falls was completed last spring. We paid an incentive of $487,000.
- We completed and paid two large hydro projects. The Central Oregon Irrigation District's 3.5 MW project received its incentive of $1 million this fall. The Swalley Irrigation District's 750 kW project was completed in the spring. It received an incentive of $916,000.
- The Farmers Irrigation District Indian Creek Corridor pipeline project was completed and paid. The project increases the capacity factor of the existing hydro system, generating an additional 400,000 kWh this year. The project received a $100,000 incentive.
- The second phase of the ProLogis solar project was completed. Energy Trust provided an incentive of $2.3 million to this 2.3 MW phase.
- We completed and paid incentives for nine small wind projects and committed funds to an additional 18 projects
- We committed $2 million to a 3.5 MW hydro project located on the North Unit Irrigation District's main canal.

Studies

- We completed a hydro resource assessment that looked at the potential for projects at irrigation districts across the state. The study will be an important tool as we work with the hydro market over the coming years.
- A geothermal study at an existing well owned by the city of Klamath Falls is nearly complete. Energy Trust provided cost-share funding.
- We co-funded a micro-hydro resource assessment for ranch-scale projects in Wallowa County. We expect the assessment to be delivered by the end of the week.
- We provided cost-share funding for a wind feasibility study for a landowner in Hood River County.

Market-building activities

- We instituted a new system for providing project development assistance that makes it easier for a project to access cost-share funding for studies, technical assistance, and grant-writing assistance.
- We held 6 wind workshops attended by 200 people in Marion, Polk, Yamhill, and Washington Counties (Newberg, Silverton, and Monmouth).
- We produced a resource document that provides information that is useful to governments that are considering permitting questions for small turbines.
- We provided financial assistance to five trade ally companies to receive advanced small wind technical training
- Staff member Jed Jorgensen presented to six hydro events this year including the Seminar Group, the Northwest Hydro Association's annual conference, and the municipal water suppliers' Waterworks School. He will also be a featured speaker at the national Small Hydropower conference in Washington DC next month. An MOU between the state of Colorado and FERC regarding expediting federal permitting used verbatim language from Jed's comments at FERC's technical conference on small hydro.