OREGON COMMUNITY SOLAR PLAYBOOK

A Reference for Community-Led Projects

Contents

Introduction

What is Community Solar?

Rose Community Development, owner of Jim and Salle's Place, an affordable housing complex in Portland, installed a community solar project so tenants like Rudy Thomas (shown) can benefit from solar.

Solar power is for everyone. That's the idea behind community solar, which allows multiple homes and businesses to share in the electricity generated by a solar project.

The Oregon Legislature established the Oregon Community Solar Program to expand the state's renewable energy portfolio and make solar energy available to more people across Oregon. Project managers—including nonprofits, tribes, public sector and other organizations—develop community solar projects. Then, residential and business customers of Portland General Electric, Pacific Power and Idaho Power can subscribe and receive credits on their electricity bill for their share of the solar power a project produces.

Community solar makes solar energy accessible for all utility customers, including those who face barriers to rooftop solar. Renters, condo owners, customers experiencing low incomes and people who have homes and businesses that are poorly suited for rooftop solar can all participate in the Oregon Community Solar Program.

Developing and managing a community solar project is a long-term commitment with a long-term payback for local communities and the environment. This document is designed to educate and engage future community solar champions.

Are you a community-based organization?
This Oregon Community Solar Playbook is for you.

The Oregon Community Solar Program wants to help community-based organizations develop solar projects in their communities. To make sure more Oregonians benefit from solar power, there is a special set aside within the program—a carveout—for community-led projects that meet certain criteria. Energy Trust of Oregon created this resource guidebook for community-based organizations that are interested in organizing a project that qualifies for that carveout.

To qualify for the carveout, a project must meet **at least one** of the following criteria:

- Reserves at least 50% of project capacity for customers with low incomes.
- Managed by a nonprofit, public-sector, tribal or renewable energy cooperative organization.
- Managed by a private-sector organization in partnership with a community-based organization (CBO)—a nonprofit, public-sector or tribal organization—at a site the CBO controls, and at least 50% of subscribers enrolled in the project must be represented by the CBO. These projects are capped at 360 kilowatts (kW).
- Managed by a private-sector organization in partnership with a community-based organization (CBO)—a nonprofit, public-sector or tribal organization—at a site the CBO controls, and at least 50% of their subscribers are from traditionally underserved groups that the CBO represents. For projects enrolling underserved groups, there is no limit on system size. See more details in the Program Implementation Manual at www.oregoncsp.org/pim.

Who's who in the Oregon Community Solar Program?

The Oregon Public Utility Commission (OPUC) oversees and regulates the Oregon Community Solar Program. To manage the day-to-day aspects of the program, the OPUC hired a third-party **program administrator**. The program administrator is a partnership of three organizations:

- Energy Solutions manages the program platform and billing processes of the program.
- Energy Trust of Oregon is the primary point of contact for project managers and participants.
- Community Energy Project serves as the program's low-income facilitator and supports customers with low incomes who are participating in the program.

How does the program work?

Community solar projects are operated by **community solar project managers.** Nearly any entity can be a project manager, including solar developers, community nonprofits, municipal or tribal governments and others. The project manager develops a community solar project and recruits participants who subscribe to receive a portion of the project's generation. Project managers may work with various partners to develop a project.

After a project begins producing power, a participant will start to receive bill credits on their monthly electricity bill for the solar power produced by their portion of the project. The participant will also pay a subscription fee through their electricity bill, which is collected by the utility and paid to the project manager. An example bill is available on the "Subscriber Resources" page at www.oregoncsp.org.

Understanding the role of the project manager

As a community-based organization that wants to start a community solar project, you are considered the project organizer. You may also be the project manager—who registers with the Oregon Community Solar Program and oversees all aspects of the project—or you may choose to team up with an established, third-party who takes on the project manager role. This playbook will help you understand all the duties of a project manager, whether that is you or another part of the team you assemble.

The upfront costs of building a community solar project are generally paid or financed by the project manager. The project manager recovers these costs over time through the subscription fees paid by participants. The project manager may choose how to price and structure their subscriptions.

What is the difference between a kilowatt and a kilowatt-hour?

The size of a solar project is generally measured in kilowatts (kW) – the larger a project's kW size is, the more power it is capable of producing. Larger projects may be designated in megawatts (MW); 1,000 kW equals 1 MW. A kilowatt-hour (or kWh) is a measure of how much energy is produced or consumed over a period. Community solar subscriptions are measured in kW. The bill credits and subscription charges that a participant receives over the course of a month, or a year are measured in kWh.

2 Project Managers build and operate community solar projects.

3 Solar electricity from the project goes to the utility grid.

1 Customers subscribe through a Project Manager to a portion of a community solar project

4 Every month, participants receive a credit on their utility bill for the electricity produced by their project.
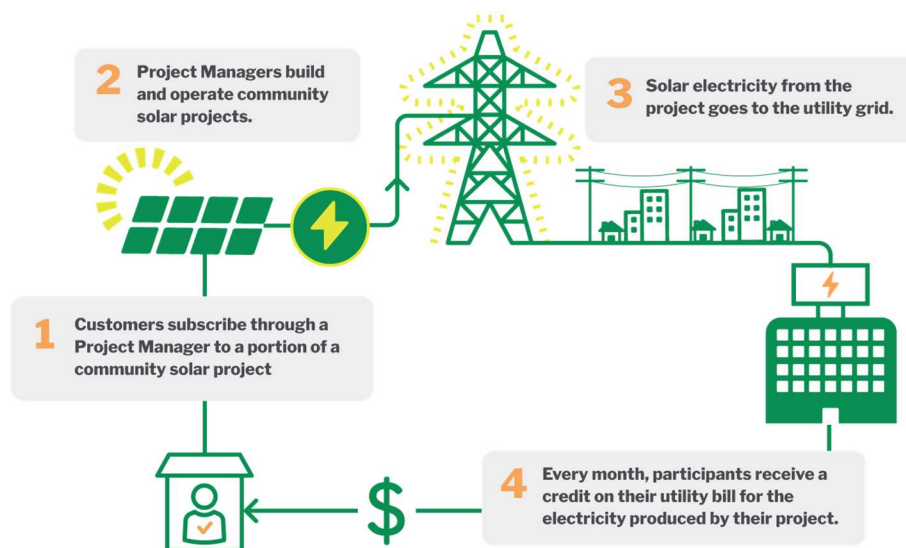
Example

A project manager has developed a 500-kW community solar project, and Terry signs up for a 5-kW subscription to that project, which is 1% of the total project size. Each month, Terry will receive a bill credit and subscription charge representing 1% of the energy that the project generated that month. It would pencil out something like this:

- Solar production from the community solar project this month: 1,000 kilowatt-hours (kWh)
- Community solar bill credit @ 11 cents/kWh: $110
- Community solar subscription charge @ 10 cents/kWh: $100
- Terry's net savings for the month: $10

Why invest your time, money and organization in community solar?

By participating in the Oregon Community Solar Program to develop a community-based solar project, you will:

- Increase solar energy capacity in our state.
- Help level the playing field for under-served groups by increasing community participation in renewable energy.
- Reduce carbon emissions and create a cleaner energy future for Oregon.
- Help your subscribers (renters, homeowners and businesses) benefit through the credits they receive on their monthly electric bill for their portion of the solar energy produced. Depending on the funding and the organization of the project, these credits may represent substantial savings.
- Increase your community impact and further your organization's mission by developing projects designed specifically to serve your community members.
- If your organization owns or has a long-term lease on property with good solar access, developing a community solar project helps you make the most of that asset, and demonstrates your commitment to environmental stewardship.

What are the basic steps for entering a project into the Community Solar Program?

Community solar projects go through an approval process that is managed by the program administrator through the program platform, www.oregoncsp.org. The next section of this playbook provides detailed information, but here's an overview of the basic stages:

1. **Project manager registration.** First, a project manager will register with the program to express their interest in managing a project and to begin the process of project development. Project manager registration is free and only requires basic information about the project manager. Project managers must be registered with the program before they can submit any project applications or begin marketing and outreach.
2. **Project pre-certification.** Once a project manager has a project they would like to enroll in the program, they submit a pre-certification application and fee to the program. Pre-certification allows the project manager to begin construction and securing participants. This application provides detailed information about the proposed project and participants. Among other requirements, a project must have a complete interconnection study from its utility before requesting pre-certification (see the section on Utility Interconnection below for more information). If the pre-certification request meets all program requirements, the program administrator will recommend that the OPUC approve the project for pre-certification status.
3. **Project certification.** After pre-certification, a project manager may begin construction and start enrolling participants. Once construction and enrollment are nearly complete, the project manager will submit a certification request to the program to begin operating and generating electricity. The program administrator will review the request and, if the project meets all program requirements, will recommend that the OPUC certify the project. A project initially has 18 months from the time it is pre-certified to become certified.
4. **Progress updates.** Due to the complex nature of these projects, it is sometimes necessary to extend the pre-certification phase beyond the standard 18 months. Progress update forms are required to be submitted by six-month increments and extensions can be discussed with the program administrator, if needed.
5. **Beginning operations.** Once certified, a project can complete the final development activities and start commercial operations. A project must begin operations within six months of its

certification date. Projects certified through the Oregon Community Solar Program commit to operating and producing bill credits for participants for a 20-year period.

Getting Started

This section covers several early-stage activities that can help determine a project's viability and get you started on developing a community solar project.

Identifying project goals

If you want to organize a solar project, identify your goals and use those goals to inform other aspects of the project plan. For example, ask yourself:

- **Who should the project serve?** As a community organization, you may be interested in developing a project to serve a specific set of participants. Keep the needs of these participants in mind when considering the additional questions below.
- **How big should the project be?** The more community members a project aims to serve, the bigger it will need to be. But the larger a project is, the more complex it can be to develop and manage. The average size of a residential community solar subscription is around 4 kW, and commercial subscriptions can be much larger. Think about how large of a project is needed to serve your goals and consider how that aligns with the available space at potential project sites. Community solar projects can be as small as 25 kW or as large as 3 MW (or 3,000 kW).
- **How will the project be paid for?** For many community solar projects, the project manager arranges to finance the upfront cost of the project and is paid back over time with subscription revenues. The subscription pricing for many of these projects is arranged so that participants receive a small net savings from their subscription. A community group may hope to provide deep savings to participants, which results in recovering less in subscription payments than it cost to build the project. If the goal is to provide deep savings to a majority of participants, organizers will need additional funding for the project, such as grants, donations and incentives. Grants and incentives typically come with their own requirements and application processes.
- **Where should the project be located?** Community solar projects can be located anywhere in Oregon, but keep these things in mind:
  - The project must connect to the grid within the same electrical utility service area as the participants who subscribe to it.
  - The local municipality must allow the land or building rooftop to be used for the purpose of installing solar panels.
  - It may be important to you to locate project in or near the community you are serving serves. Or you may instead choose a location based on cost or the ease of connecting the project to the grid.

Building a team

Community solar projects are often operated and managed by multiple organizations working together.

As an early step, groups interested in forming a project should consider how to fill these important team roles:

- **Purchasing equipment and constructing the project.**
  - For smaller projects, especially those under 500 kW, you can find solar companies to manage the utility interconnection and construction process on the Energy Trust website: www.energytrust.org/find-a-contractor.

- For larger projects, especially those over 1,000 kW, you may want to rely on an existing solar project manager. To find organizations that are managing other projects, email the Oregon Community Solar Program: info@oregoncsp.org. Or view their list of registered project managers online here. You can also check with the Oregon Solar + Storage Industries Association at www.orssia.org.
- **Conducting outreach to subscribers.** This role may be well-suited for you as a community-based group. Or you may choose to team up with one of several private-sector subscriber acquisition firms currently engaged in the program.
- **Hosting the solar array site.** See "Finding a Project Site," below, to learn about site hosts.
- **Managing subscribers and interacting with the program.** Your community-based group may be interested in organizing a solar project, but consider whether you want to also take on the long-term responsibilities of managing the project. Instead, you may choose to partner with an established project manager.
  - The project manager will serve as the primary point of contact and responsible party with the program administrator of the Oregon Community Solar Program throughout the project's 20-year commitment. The project manager will also be responsible for subscription contracts with participants.
  - The program administrator is available to support you in understanding your options for partnerships to fill these different roles: administrator@oregoncsp.org.

Finding a project site

Community solar projects can be either roof-mounted on top of a building or ground-mounted. Some potential project organizers, such as municipalities or church groups, may own property or buildings that would be good locations for solar arrays. Other groups may not own or control a suitable site and need to partner with a property owner who is willing to lease a site to the project. The property owner is known as a site host.

Community solar projects are installed "in front of the meter," meaning all power is sent to the grid, and credited to your project, rather than being used to offset electricity used on the site. You or the site host can participate in the community solar project as a subscriber.

In evaluating whether a site is a good candidate for solar, keep these factors in mind:

Roof-mounted project

- **What is your access to the site?** The project team must obtain site control, meaning that they must already own the project site or enter into an agreement with the property owner to build a community solar project at the site. Keep in mind that a project registered with the Oregon Community Solar Program is committed to operating for 20 years.
- **What is the solar feasibility of the site?** Is the site a good candidate for solar? Not overly shaded? Is it a big enough space? How large of a solar array could be installed and how does that compare to your goals for participation? For help answering these questions, check with a solar contractor, such as an Energy Trust trade ally at www.energytrust.org/find-a-contractor.

Ground-mounted project

- **Is the site in a good location on the grid?** It is more challenging to connect a solar project to the grid in some areas than in others. Your electric utility has tools and information to help identify whether a site may encounter significant challenges connecting to the grid. A solar contractor or experienced community solar project manager can help you navigate this issue.

Understanding key program requirements

When selecting a site and planning the outreach strategy for participants, keep several key program requirements in mind.

- Project size must be at least 25 kW and no more than 3,000 kW.
- Each project must have at least five participants. There is no maximum number of participants.
- No single participant can subscribe to more than 40% of a project's capacity.
- Residential customers must subscribe to at least 50% of a project's capacity.
- Residential customers with low incomes must subscribe to at least 10% of a project's capacity (this capacity also counts towards the 50% residential requirement).
- Subscription charges paid to projects by participants with low incomes are capped at 60% of the value of the bill credits that those customers receive, guaranteeing a minimum savings level for customers experiencing low incomes.
- All participants must be customers of the same electric utility that serves the project site.

See more details about program requirements in the Program Implementation Manual at www.oregoncsp.org/pim. If you have questions about the requirements, email the program administrator at administrator@oregoncsp.org.

Funding and financing a project

As a project organizer, you should develop a financial model to understand how much a project will cost to build and manage, how you will pay for the upfront costs, how much you will need to charge participants over time to recover costs and what level of savings participants will experience.

You can pay for the upfront cost of a project through a combination of equity (funds currently available to the organizers), debt (from taking out a loan or partnering with a financier), grants and incentives. It can be useful to speak with existing community solar project managers to understand different lending and funding options for community-scale projects.

Grant and incentive programs typically follow annual or semi-annual funding cycles, so plan ahead for these opportunities if you wish to apply. Several possible sources of funding for Oregon community solar projects include:

- **Energy Trust of Oregon incentives.** Energy Trust periodically releases incentive offers for qualifying community solar projects. Check for current offers at www.energytrust.org/community-solar-development.
- **Portland Clean Energy Fund (PCEF) grants.** PCEF offers planning and implementation grants for a wide range of community-oriented renewable energy projects. Both the project and participants must be located in the City of Portland to qualify. More information is available at www.portland.gov/bps/cleanenergy.
- **Utility renewable energy grants.** Learn about how to apply for grants from the PGE Renewable Development Fund at www.portlandgeneral.com/rdf or Pacific Power's Blue Sky program at www.pacificpower.net/blueskyprojects.

- **USDA REAP program.** Community solar projects in rural areas may qualify for grants or loans from the USDA's Rural Energy for America Program. See details at www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/energy-programs/rural-energy-america-program-renewable-energy-systems-energy-efficiency-improvement-guaranteed-loans.

In addition, organizers should consider how to best take advantage of available federal tax credits for renewable energy projects.

Registering as a project manager

Early in the development process, the entity that will serve as the project manager for your project (whether it is your organization or a separate project manager that's part of your team) should register with the Oregon Community Solar Program at www.oregoncsp.org. This is an easy and no-cost process. Once registered, the project manager will be listed on the Oregon Community Solar Program website, which makes it easier for customers and other parties to find and contact them. Registered project managers may also begin early outreach to potential participants, though they cannot sign participant contracts until a project is pre-certified.

The project manager will be asked to view several required training videos, provide basic information about project plans, and submit a W-9 and insurance documentation (the latter can be temporarily waived if the project manager is a community group that lacks insurance).

Help and resources in early stages

During the early stages of project development, you can take advantage of these resources:

- **Energy Trust Community Solar Development Assistance.** Energy Trust offers an incentive to help cover part of the cost of initial project development activities, such as site feasibility studies, interconnection studies, and financial or legal advice. More information is available at www.energytrust.org/community-solar-development.
- **Energy Trust Community Solar Coaching Assistance.** Energy Trust has teamed up the Bonneville Environmental Foundation to offer coaching and technical assistance for qualified organizations interested in developing community solar projects. More information on this is available at www.energytrust.org/community-solar-development.
- **Oregon Community Solar Program resources.** Explore the program website at www.oregoncsp.org and familiarize yourself with the Program Implementation Manual at www.oregonsp.org/pim. Contact the program administrator at administrator@oregoncsp.org to discuss your project plans as early as possible. The program administrator may have additional resources to offer.
- **Utility resources.** Early in the process, contact the interconnection staff at the electric utility that serves your project site to learn of any specific interconnection concerns. See the "Utility and Government Approvals" section below.

Utility and Government Approvals

This section details some of the key approvals you will need to secure from utilities and local governments before you are able to apply to the program.

Utility interconnection

Interconnection is the process of connecting a project to the utility grid. Projects need to receive utility permission to interconnect. Community solar projects apply for interconnection through a specific application pathway.

During the interconnection application process, the utility will determine the impacts of your project on the local grid, as well as the cost of any upgrades to grid infrastructure that will be needed to accommodate your project. Depending on where a project is located and how large it is, interconnection can either be a speedy and affordable process, or it could raise significant and cost-prohibitive technical issues. For this reason, it is good to identify potential interconnection issues early in your process.

Before applying for interconnection, you must have a complete system design and be able to provide detailed technical information to the utility. You must also demonstrate that you have site control (ownership or a lease agreement) as part of your application.

Most small-scale community solar projects will submit a Tier 2 Fast Track interconnection application with their utility. After receiving the application, the utility will assess the project against a series of screening criteria that indicate the project's impact on the local grid. If the project passes the screens, it will be quoted an interconnection cost and can proceed in the process. If a project fails a screen, the utility will conduct a full Tier 4 System Impact Study to determine its impacts and associated costs.

You should apply for interconnection before you submit a community solar project application to the program. You can apply to the Oregon Community Solar Program once you have either passed a Tier 2 Fast Track screen or received a Tier 4 System Impact Study. Keep in mind that timing for an interconnection study can vary greatly, depending on the size of the project and the site.

A number of interconnection resources are available to support community solar projects:

- The Oregon Community Solar Program offers in-depth guidance on the interconnection process at www.oregoncsp.org/interconnection.
- Utility interconnection staff can help you understand any known issues that might complicate interconnecting in a given area and also identify the specific distribution feeder that serves a site. Find utility website information at www.oregoncsp.org/interconnection.
- Utilities publish certain distribution system data that you can use to identify at a high level whether interconnection at a given site is viable. See the links at www.oregoncsp.org/interconnection.
- If you represent a nonprofit, you may request free pre-application study reports from your electric utility to collect known information about interconnecting at your site of interest.

Local government permits

Depending on the local jurisdiction, a community project may require certain permits or approvals from local, county or tribal government, such as a building or construction permit. An Energy Trust trade ally or other construction partner can be a helpful resource in identifying and pursuing these permits.

You do not need to obtain basic permits, such as building or electrical permits, before submitting a project application to the program. However, if a project requires a conditional use permit or similar discretionary approval, you must secure it prior to applying to the program. Conditional use permits are more frequently

required for large, ground-mounted projects, especially those on agricultural land; they are rarely needed for projects sited on building rooftops.

Applying for Pre-Certification

When you are ready to propose a community solar project to the Oregon Community Solar Program, you will submit a **pre-certification application**. This application details your specific plans for developing and managing a community solar project and provides specific documentation about the project.

In most cases, if your project has received interconnection results from your utility, you will be ready to request pre-certification.

Pre-certification application requirements

The application will ask you to provide:

- Contact information for all project partners.
- General information about the planned project (location, size, equipment, etc.), as well as a project site plan and electrical diagram.
- Status of utility and government approvals, including a copy of the project's interconnection study results and conditional use permit (if relevant).
- Expected project cost information.
- Expected project development timeline.
- Expected subscription pricing.
- Expected participant allocations and outreach plans.

Pre-certification application process

Complete and submit your project application online at www.oregoncsp.org. The program administrator will review the application and may contact you with questions. If the application is in order and there are no special considerations for the project, the program administrator will issue a public notice that they plan to approve the project and, if no stakeholder comments are received, the project will be pre-certified. If there are special considerations for a project or if stakeholder comments opposing the project are received, the Oregon Public Utility Commission will review the project at the next available public meeting.

Code of Conduct

The Oregon Community Solar Program Implementation Manual includes a Code of Conduct that governs participant interactions. Project managers and subscription managers should familiarize themselves with the requirements of the Code of Conduct before starting outreach and enrollment. See the manual at www.oregoncsp.org/pim.

Pre-certification fees

You will pay a pre-certification application deposit of $5 per kW of project capacity at the time of application. This deposit is partially refundable if you withdraw your project before it becomes operational.

Development Steps After Being Pre-Certified

Once a project is pre-certified, you may begin construction and customer enrollment. A project has 18 months from the pre-certification date to become certified. Until a project becomes certified, you will be asked to provide brief project status updates to the program administrator every six months, and you are encouraged to stay in regular communication with the program administrator about any issues you encounter.

Developing and constructing the project

After you receive utility interconnection results, you will sign an interconnection agreement with the utility. The interconnection agreement lays out the timeline for bringing a project online so that it may begin operating and generating energy. Once the interconnection agreement is signed and the project is pre-certified, you can sign a Community Solar Program power purchase agreement with your utility, which specifies how power will be delivered to participants.

Based on the timeline set in the interconnection agreement and the project's expected certification date, **project construction can begin any time after pre-certification.**

Enrolling participants

Once your project is pre-certified, you can begin to sign subscriber agreements with participants. The project manager could do this enrollment themselves or could designate one of your project partners to manage enrollment as the subscription manager.

It is generally the designated subscription manager's responsibility to identify and enroll individual participants. Remember, your project must include at least 10% low-income enrollment. If you do not have existing connections to communities experiencing low income, the Oregon Community Solar Program's low-income facilitator—Community Energy Project—is available to refer participants with low incomes to your project and otherwise support low-income enrollment. They will also verify low-income eligibility for all customers. Contact Community Energy Project at solar@communityenergyproject.org.

The program provides separate templates for subscriber agreements with residential customers and residential customers with low incomes, which you can adapt for use in your project.

For each participant, you must determine an appropriate subscription size based the participant's past energy use. It is recommended that subscriptions be sized to offset no more than 80% of a participant's average annual usage, because participants cannot receive bill credits for more energy than they consume in a year. To assist with sizing subscriptions, the program administrator can provide you with a participant's past energy consumption and suggest a subscription size.

You or your subscription manager will collect each participant's utility and subscription information and input it into the program platform. The program administrator will then verify the information provided for each participant, confirm they are eligible for the program and ensure the subscription size is appropriate.

If you need help understanding the participant verification process and how to enter information into the program platform, contact the program administrator at administrator@oregoncsp.org.

Certification and Operations

Once your pre-certified project meets the requirements listed below, you can request final certification by the Oregon Public Utility Commission. After your project is certified, it can begin operating and generating electricity.

Certification application requirements

You can request certification for your solar project once it meets all the following thresholds:

- The project is within six months of beginning commercial operations.
- You have a signed an interconnection agreement and power purchase agreement with the utility.

- You have filled at least 50% of your project's capacity with at least five verified participants and fully filled the 10% low-income portion of the project.

When you request certification through the Oregon Community Solar Program platform at www.oregoncsp.org, you are required to supply the following information:

- Updated project cost and timeline information
- Uploaded documentation of the interconnection agreement and power purchase agreement with the utility
- Final construction drawings
- An attestation that the project manager has the project owner's permission to manage the project.

There is no fee required to request project certification.

Certification application process

Projects must be reviewed and approved for certification by the Oregon Public Utility Commission.

After you submit a certification request as described above, the program administrator will review the application to ensure that it meets all program requirements. The program administrator will request additional information if needed, and then provide their recommendation to the OPUC. The OPUC will act on the application at the next available public meeting.

The OPUC's public meeting process requires time to allow for public comment and review, so certification approval can take up to a month. Because of that, you are encouraged to submit your certification requests early and not wait until you are ready to begin commercial operations.

Starting commercial operations

Once your project is certified by the OPUC and you receive final permission from your utility, you may start commercial operations. Projects must become operational within six months of being certified.

For participant billing to begin, you must provide the program administrator with utility account information for the project site, and banking information for the account where you want participant payments to be directed.

Ongoing project manager responsibilities

Community solar projects must operate for 20 years. This is defined in the power purchase agreement that you enter into with the utility. During this period, ongoing project manager responsibilities include:

- Participant management, which includes answering questions, providing updated account information for participants that move within the same utility service area, and managing any participant turnover.
- Arranging for regular maintenance and other operational needs at the project site.
- Registering the project in WREGIS, the Western Renewable Energy Generation Information System at www.wecc.org/WREGIS, to track the generation of Renewable Energy Certificates (RECs) and retiring these RECs on behalf of participants. This requirement is waived for projects that are 360 kW or smaller.
- Providing annual reporting to the program administrator on REC retirement (if applicable) and on any customer complaints received.
- Arranging for the decommissioning of the project at the end of the project lifetime.

Additional Resources

Links

Oregon Community Solar Program website. The website provides in-depth information about the program. It is also the platform through which project managers will submit requests for program approvals and manage subscribers: www.oregoncsp.org

OPUC Docket UM 1930. The Oregon Public Utility Commission maintains a public docket where all program approvals and other business are recorded: www.apps.puc.state.or.us/edockets/docket.asp?DocketID=21222.

Energy Trust website. Energy Trust provides information on community solar development assistance funding as well as community solar coaching assistance: www.energytrust.org/community-solar-development .

National Community Solar Partnership. The National Renewable Energy Laboratory's National Community Solar Partnership (NCSP) provides a national peer network and technical assistance resources for community solar project organizers: www.energy.gov/communitysolar/community-solar.

Contacts

Program administrator for the Oregon Community Solar Program is available to offer support and answer your questions: administrator@oregoncsp.org.

Community Solar Coaching Assistance, a service from Energy Trust and the Bonneville Environmental Foundation, offers coaching and technical assistance to qualifying community organizations as they progress through the project investigation and development process: cmthompson@b-e-f.org.

Community Energy Project, as part of the program administrator team, serves as the program low-income facilitator and can help you connect with customers with low incomes who are interested in subscribing to a project: solar@communityenergyproject.org.