

Business Program Information

SOLAR ENERGY SYSTEMS WORK IN OREGON!

Tap into clean renewable energy with solar electric and water heating systems for your business. Investing in solar energy lowers your energy costs, while demonstrating your commitment to the environment.

Using the sun's energy to heat water or generate electricity works great - even in Oregon. In fact, Oregon receives more sun than Germany, which is a world leader in the use of solar energy.



Why choose solar?



Installing a solar energy system illustrates your commitment to environmental stewardship, reduces your monthly energy bills and reduces the impact of increasing fuel and electricity costs. Thanks to incentives from the PUD and State and Federal tax credits, solar energy systems are more affordable than you think.

Your up-front investment may be paid back in 5 to 7 years. After that, your system will deliver pollution-free electricity and hot water for years to come.

The PUD's Choice Energy Solar Program offers expert guidance, financial incentives, contractor lists and quality assurance inspections to give you peace of mind.

Eligibility requirements

- You must be a Columbia River PUD customer.
- The PUD must pre-approve all projects prior to installation.
- Systems must be new. Expansions to existing solar systems are not eligible.
- All systems must be grid-tied and net metered.
- An approved solar contractor must install the system. Self-installed systems do not qualify for PUD incentives.
- All systems must receive the Oregon Business Energy Tax Credit for Solar.

For more information

To learn more about Choice Energy Solar, visit www.crpud.net or contact our Energy Experts at experts@crpud.org or (503) 366-5470.

**Columbia River PUD
Energy Experts**
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Program steps:

- Select a contractor from the Oregon Department of Energy's list of approved solar contractors. Visit http://egov.oregon.gov/ENERGY/CONS/RES/tax/docs/solar_techs.pdf for a current listing.
- Submit a net metering application to the PUD for pre-approval.
- Sign a Net-Metering and Interconnection Agreement with the PUD (not necessary for solar water heating systems)
- Your system is installed by the contractor.
- The PUD inspects the final installation.
- The PUD pays an incentive to you or to your contractor.
- Your contractor will help you fill out Oregon Department of Energy tax credit form.
- Submit a tax credit application to the Oregon Department of Energy.



Solar Electric Incentives

We offer two incentive levels for solar electric systems. Stand-alone systems qualify for a higher incentive amount. Systems that are installed as part of a group buying program, called a "Solarize" community, qualify for a lower incentive.

PUD Incentive - Non "Solarize" Communities:

- \$1.00/ watt_{DC}, up to \$3,500 based on rated capacity of solar panels, in watts.

PUD Incentive - "Solarize" Communities:

- \$0.75/ watt_{DC}, up to \$2,100 based on rated capacity of solar panels, in watts.

State Tax Credit:

- 50% of eligible cost, taken over 5 years

Federal Tax Credit:

- 30% of net installed cost

Solar Water Heating Incentives

PUD Incentive (electric water heating systems):

- \$600 per qualified system

State Tax Credit:

- 50% of eligible cost, taken over 5 years

Federal Tax Credit:

- 30% of net installed cost
- 5-year MACRS Depreciation Schedule

Consult your tax advisor for rules regarding state and federal tax credits.