

2024 Program Report

Submitted to the

# **OREGON LEGISLATURE**

by the

OREGON
DEPARTMENT OF
ENERGY

December 2024

#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The Community Renewable Energy Grant Program was established by the Oregon Department of Energy at the direction of HB 2021, passed by the Oregon State Legislature in 2021. The legislature directed ODOE to develop a competitive grant program that offsets the cost of planning and developing community renewable energy and energy resilience projects, makes community renewable energy projects economically feasible for qualifying communities, promotes small-scale renewable energy projects, and provides direct benefits to communities across this state.

ODOE appointed a program Advisory Committee, which provided guidance as ODOE drafted program administrative rules. Final rules were adopted in February 2022, and the program launched in March 2022 with an initial \$50 million budget for grants for planning and developing community renewable energy and energy resilience projects outside the city of Portland and for ODOE's program administration. An additional \$20 million was deposited into the program fund by SB 5506 in the 2023 legislative session.

Over 90% of program funding supports projects that primarily serve one or more environmental justice communities.

The first round of opportunity announcements opened in March 2022. To date, three rounds of opportunity announcements have been held. Across these three rounds of opportunity announcements, ODOE received 195 eligible applications and awarded 50 planning projects totaling \$4,387,990 in grants and 44 construction projects totaling \$37,454,977 in grants. Projects have been awarded in 28 of Oregon's 36 counties.

C-REP grants have offset 68% of planning project costs and 36% of construction project costs for awarded projects.

The program has been successful in meeting the legislative mandate that a minimum of 50 percent of program funds be reserved for projects that serve one or more environmental justice community. In fact, so far 93.6 percent of awarded grant funds are supporting projects that serve one or more environmental justice communities. The program has also been

successful in meeting the mandate that 50 percent or more of the funding go to grants to plan or construct renewable energy systems that also strengthen energy resilience — 66 percent of the program grant funds have been awarded for planning or constructing community energy resilience projects.

The program is accomplishing its objective to offset the cost of planning and developing community renewable energy projects. Based upon total project costs submitted in grant applications and awarded grant amounts, program funds offset 68 percent of total planning project costs and 36 percent of total construction project costs.

Once completed, program-supported construction projects are projected to offset an estimated total of 19,655 metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent (greenhouse gas emissions) based on the carbon intensity of the electric utilities serving the projects. Construction projects will contribute 44,317 net megawatt hours per year in renewable energy generation and 22,194 kilowatt hours of available energy storage capacity to support community sites, critical public services, emergency shelters, and first responders.

This report is available online on the Oregon Department of Energy's website: <a href="https://www.oregon.gov/energy/Data-and-Reports/Pages/Reports-to-the-Legislature.aspx">https://www.oregon.gov/energy/Data-and-Reports/Pages/Reports-to-the-Legislature.aspx</a>.

## **TABLE OF CONTENTS**

| EXECUTIVE SUMMARY  | i  |
|--|----|
| ABOUT THE PROGRAM  | 1  |
| Program Background   | 1  |
| Program Accomplishments  | 2  |
| Project Highlights   | 3  |
| From Planning to Construction  | 4  |
| Program Operations   | 5  |
| Planning Projects  | 8  |
| Construction Projects  | 8  |
| Program Challenges   | 8  |
| Participation by Consumer-Owned Utilities  | 8  |
| Resilience Focused Projects  | g  |
| Improving Participation and Support for Smaller, Rural, and Frontier Organizations | g  |
| Challenges in Demonstrating Verifiable Economic Benefits                           | 10 |
| Serving All Potential Applicant Organizations                                      | 10 |
| Program Goals and Recommendations  | 11 |
| Program Improvements   | 11 |
| Legislative Recommendations  | 11 |
| PROGRAM METRICS  | 12 |
| APPENDIX A: LIST OF C-REP GRANTS AWARDED   | 17 |

#### ABOUT THE PROGRAM

#### **Program Background**

The Community Renewable Energy Grant Program was established by the Oregon Department of Energy at the direction of HB 2021, passed by the Oregon State Legislature in 2021. The program was established for the purpose of:



- Offsetting the cost of planning and developing community renewable energy and energy resilience projects.
- Making community renewable energy projects economically feasible for qualifying communities
- Promoting small-scale renewable energy projects.
- Providing direct benefits to communities across this state in the form of increased community
  energy resilience, local jobs, economic development, or direct energy cost savings to families and
  small businesses. Community energy resilience refers to the ability of a community to maintain
  critical public services following disruptions to the energy grid.

An initial \$50 million was deposited into the program fund for grants that support planning and developing community renewable energy and energy resilience projects outside the city of Portland and for ODOE's program administration. Oregon Tribes, public bodies, and consumer-owned utilities are all eligible to apply for grants; planning grants are available up to \$100,000 and construction projects up to \$1,000,000. The legislature directed ODOE to allocate 50 percent or more of the initial funding for grants to plan or construct renewable energy systems that support the energy resilience of facilities that are essential to the public welfare. In addition, the legislature directed the department to allocate 50 percent or more of the initial funding to grants for projects that primarily serve one or more environmental justice communities. The legislature allocated an additional \$20 million for the program in SB 5506 during the 2023 legislative session.

During the early stages of developing the program, ODOE appointed an Advisory Committee as described in HB 2021. The purpose of the Advisory Committee is to consult on implementation of the program, including the development of administrative rules. Membership of the committee included representatives from the Environmental Justice Task Force; Business Oregon; local government; utilities; the renewable energy industry; a federally recognized Oregon Tribe; state and federal emergency management and response agencies; and non-governmental organizations representing communities with lower incomes or disadvantaged households. The department held three Advisory Committee meetings before filing draft rules in December 2021, and final rules were adopted in February 2022. The Advisory Committee continues to support the program with outreach to potential applicants, recruitment for external reviewers during opportunity rounds, and guidance on recommended program changes

Following the adoption of the rules, ODOE hosted a series of public meetings to provide information about the program and to prepare potential applicants. The first opportunity period launched in March 2022. To increase transparency and enhance the diversity of perspectives involved, ODOE recruited reviewers external to the agency to assist with the evaluation applications. Scoring criteria for the

evaluation of applications incorporated the priorities outlined in HB 2021, which include prioritizing proposals that:

- Include community energy resilience projects.
- Help achieve natural hazard mitigation plan goals.
- Are for projects located in an environmental justice community.
- Incorporate equity metrics developed as part of the administrative rules. The equity metrics
  focus on areas such as the level of involvement environmental justice communities have in the
  project; how the project would serve an environmental justice community; whether an equity
  framework was used to guide development or implementation of the project; and the level of
  community outreach associated with the project.
- Demonstrate significant prior investments in energy efficiency measures at the project location or will result in aggregate improvements to demand response capabilities.
- Are for projects constructed by disadvantaged business enterprises, emerging small businesses or businesses that are owned by minorities, women or disabled veterans.
- Include inclusive hiring and promotion policies for workers working on the projects.

#### **Program Accomplishments**

Program start-up and implementation activities, including program staffing, establishing the Advisory Committee, conducting rulemaking, defining program processes and procedures, developing program communications and outreach, and implementing the technology necessary to administer the program were completed within nine months. The first round of opportunity announcements opened in March 2022. To date, three rounds of opportunity announcements, including awardee announcements, have been completed. Each of these rounds included four opportunity announcements, one each for planning a community renewable energy project, planning a community energy resilience project, constructing a community renewable energy project, and constructing a community energy resilience project.

The C-REP program has awarded 94 projects totaling \$41,842,967, including 50 planning projects totaling \$4,387,990 in grants and 44 construction projects totaling \$37,454,977. These grants will help awardees offset the cost of planning and developing community renewable energy projects by covering an estimated 68 percent of total planning project costs and 36 percent of total construction project costs.<sup>i</sup>

The program has awarded 94 projects totaling nearly \$42 million.

C-REP projects have been awarded in 28 of Oregon's 36 counties, including planning projects in 23 counties and construction projects in 18 counties. Twenty-one planning projects and two construction projects have been completed as of late 2024, and several more construction projects are nearing completion. Construction projects support community solar, community services, essential services, emergency services, and community resilience centers. Collectively, these projects will provide direct benefits to communities across the state, including increased community energy resilience, local jobs, economic development and local energy cost savings. A complete list of C-REP projects, including brief project descriptions, is available in Appendix A.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Based upon total project cost data submitted in C-REP grant applications and actual C-REP award amounts.

Fifty-eight eligible applications were submitted for the first round of opportunity announcements, 46 submitted for the second round, and 73 submitted for the third round. The 40 percent growth in applications for the latest funding round versus the average of the first two rounds demonstrates the success the agency has had in promoting the program and encouraging interest in small-scale renewable energy projects.

Feedback from applicants and information submitted with applications indicate that increasing interest in community renewable energy and community energy resilience is stemming from extreme weather events, including wildfires, and community preparedness needs for outage events. The increased interest in funding for community renewable energy and energy resilience projects exceeded the amount of funding available in the grant round. In round three alone, 37 eligible construction projects totaling \$28,573,258 went unfunded.

Awarded construction development projects are estimated to contribute 44,317 net MWh/year in renewable energy generation. Once completed, C-REP construction projects are projected to offset an estimated total of 19,655 metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent (greenhouse gas emissions) based on the carbon intensity of the electric utilities serving the projects. Renewable energy development projects that also include resilient microgrid aspects represent 22,194 kWh of available energy storage capacity to support community sites, facilities, emergency shelters, and first responders. This number includes several projects participating in utility demand response programs to support emergency demand and peak shaving for project communities.

#### **Project Highlights**

To date, there are two construction projects completed. The first is in the City of Ontario's Verde Light Oregon Community Solar site, which benefits the city and Idaho Power community solar subscribers. The City of Ontario received \$900,000 in grant funds for the project, which directly benefits the local environmental justice community with an estimated \$45,000 in annual energy savings for the city, a 20 percent annual energy savings for low-income qualifying community members, and economic development opportunities for local contractors, including job creation and retention for area tradespeople. Idaho Power receives increased grid stability against power fluctuations, improving resilience for the utility and customers.



The City of Ontario's <u>Verde Light Oregon</u>
<u>Community Solar project</u> was the first
completed Community Renewable
Energy Grant-supported project.

The City of The Dalles recently completed a community energy resilience construction project at the newly constructed Gloria Center – a multi-agency supportive services navigation center that serves as a community shelter during emergencies. The installed system included a net-metered 79 kW rooftop solar PV system with 60 kW battery storage and emergency circuitry to support resilient power during grid outages. The project also included two Level 2 electric vehicle charging stations. The city received \$758,051 in grant funds for the project, which directly benefits an environmental justice community

with no- to low-cost EV charging. It also provides direct energy cost savings for the community partners at the facility, which offers support services to individuals and families in the community, including Oregon Human Development Corporation (OHDC), Columbia Gorge Health Council, Bridges to Health Pathways, The Next Door Inc., Nch'i Wana Housing, Mid-Columbia Center for Living, and Mid-Columbia Housing Authority. Mid-Columbia Community Action Council assisted with raising funds.

#### From Planning to Construction

A unique benefit of the program is that eligible entities can apply for a planning grant that could later support a competitive construction grant. Three program participants have successfully received construction grants for projects previously supported with C-REP- planning grants.

Using planning grants funds awarded in the program's second opportunity round, Hood River County worked with the county's Energy Council, Mt. Hood Towne Hall Association and community members to strengthen the energy resiliency of a key community facility. In September 2024, the county applied for and was selected to receive up to \$972,933 to construct its planned project. The 55 kW Solar PV project is estimated to generate 70,320 kWh annually and will include a 60 kW/307 kWh backup battery storage to maintain power for emergency operations or community shelter needs at the Mount Hood Town Hall, which serves the community of the Upper Hood River Valley. The Mt. Hood Town Hall is as a gathering place for special events, a recycling center, serves weekly community meals, hosts summer music and markets, holds various fitness and community interest classes, and serves as a Head Start preschool site for area low-income families. It is ADA accessible and includes a commercial kitchen and showers for community use. The Hood River County Energy Council and Mt. Hood Towne Hall Association are also directly involved in the project, supporting technical and project management guidance through completion.

The City of Oakridge received a C-REP planning project grant in the program's second opportunity round and was selected to receive up to \$332,500 to construct the city's planned project. Once completed, this 125 kW Solar PV system is estimated to produce 150,480 kW annually and will include a 115-kWh backup energy storage system that will strengthen community emergency preparedness and support critical community facilities at the Willamette Activity Center (WAC). The WAC is a well-known public facility within walking distance of the community's most vulnerable residents and has long been a center for social services. Most recently, this community facility housed the local Food Box, a community theater group, a commercial kitchen, and served as a warming shelter for the area's unhoused. Historically, the WAC also housed a Head Start program, senior services center, DMV, daycare, DHS, veterans' services, and after school programs.

Klamath Community College received a C-REP planning grant in the program's first opportunity round, then received up to \$999,424 to construct the planned community energy resilience project. The near-complete project includes a net-metered 45 kW Solar PV system with 25 kW battery backup to support KCC's new Apprenticeship, Industrial Trades and Fire Training Center. This education facility will serve as a key regional training center for photovoltaic installers with estimated average starting incomes around \$58,000, with industry growth projections above 50 percent, and an automotive service technician training facility, with starting average income estimates at or above \$55,000. KCC's recent project update estimates the PV Solar system may be expanded prior to completion, and the project team is currently considering the additional electric vehicle chargers at the site location.

#### **Program Operations**

As noted above, following final adoption of program rules in February 2022, the Community Renewable Energy Grant Program launched the first opportunity round in March 2022 consisting of four published Opportunity Announcements as directed by HB 2021. To date, three opportunity rounds have been completed, each offering grant dollars to support the following four funding opportunities:

| Construction Renewable-Only | Developing a community renewable energy project that does not qualify as a community energy resilience project.              |
|-----------------------------|--|
| Construction Resilience     | Developing a community renewable energy project that also qualifies as a community energy resilience project.                |
| Planning Renewable-Only     | Planning activities for a community renewable energy project that does not qualify as a community energy resilience project. |
| Planning Resilience         | Planning activities for a community renewable energy project that also qualifies as a community energy resilience project.   |

For reference, <u>Oregon Laws 2021, Chapter 508</u>, defines the difference between renewable-only and resilience projects as,

- (1) "Community renewable energy project" means one or more renewable energy systems, storage systems, microgrids or energy-related infrastructure that promote energy resilience, increase renewable energy generation or renewable energy storage capacity and provide a direct benefit to a particular community in the form of increased community energy resilience, local jobs, economic development or direct energy costs savings to families and small businesses.
- (3) "Community energy resilience project" means a community renewable energy project that includes utilizing one or more renewable energy systems to support the energy resilience of structures or facilities that are essential to the public welfare.

Following statute, program rules, and Advisory Committee recommendations, the program facilitates and operates each opportunity round consistently by publishing Opportunity Announcements for each funding category. Each announcement defines the funding round's schedule, including application portal opening and closing, eligibility and completeness review of applications, competitive review and scoring of eligible applications, and grant award selection by ODOE's Director. Once awardees are selected, the program team initiates the process to execute performance agreements. Once performance agreements are completed, projects are tracked through required quarterly reporting. Upon project completion and submission and validation of final reporting, the remaining project funds are disbursed. Awarded construction development projects require an on-site inspection of the completed operational system prior to final fund release.

#### Table 1: C-REP Opportunity Rounds with Funding Breakdowns

#### C-REP Round One Results

March – September 2022

\$12 Million Available / \$11,975,601 Actual Awarded

68 Applications Submitted / 58 Eligible Applications / 21 Grants Awarded

| Grants Awarded – Round One  | Number | Funding Awarded |
|-----------------------------|--------|-----------------|
| Construction Renewable-Only | 4      | \$3,716,424     |
| Construction Resilience     | 9      | \$7,573,859     |
| Planning Renewable-Only     | 5      | \$434,718       |
| Planning Resilience         | 3      | \$250,600       |

#### **C-REP Round Two Results**

January - May 2023

\$12 Million Available / \$12,000,000 Actual Awarded

52 Applications Submitted / 49 Eligible Applications / 39 Grants Awarded

| Grants Awarded – Round Two  | Number | Funding Awarded |
|-----------------------------|--------|-----------------|
| Construction Renewable-Only | 5      | \$3,570,360     |
| Construction Resilience     | 9      | \$6,483,503     |
| Planning Renewable-Only     | 8      | \$585,063       |
| Planning Resilience         | 17     | \$1,361,074     |

#### **C-REP Round Three Results**

March - September 2024

\$18 Million Available / \$17,482,366 Actual Awarded

79 Applications Submitted\* / 73 Eligible Application / 34 Grants Awarded

| Grants Awarded – Round Three | Number | Funding Awarded |
|------------------------------|--------|-----------------|
| Construction Renewable-Only  | 4      | \$4,000,000     |
| Construction Resilience      | 13     | \$12,110,831    |
| Planning Renewable-Only      | 6      | \$427,500       |
| Planning Resilience          | 11     | \$1,361,074     |

<sup>\*140%</sup> of average number of applications in rounds 1 and 2

Once a grant performance agreement is executed with the Oregon Department of Energy, awardees have three years to complete construction development projects. Awarded construction project agreements in the first two rounds were executed in mid-to-late 2023, with completion timelines averaging 24-36 months. Round three construction award agreements are scheduled to be executed in late 2024 for the 17 awarded projects.

C-REP has also been successful promoting small-scale renewable energy projects across the state with \$43,701,076 in currently reserved grant funds supporting the successful completion of planning and/or development projects in 28 of Oregon's 36 counties.

**Table 2: C-REP Project Funding by County** 

| County     | Number of<br>Awarded Projects | Funding Awarded |
|------------|-------------------------------|-----------------|
| Benton     | 1                             | \$999,000       |
| Clackamas  | 1                             | \$70,939        |
| Columbia   | 2                             | \$1,086,701     |
| Coos       | 2                             | \$1,100,000     |
| Curry      | 1                             | \$98,375        |
| Deschutes  | 8                             | \$3,578,360     |
| Douglas    | 4                             | \$2,923,370     |
| Grant      | 1                             | \$128,250       |
| Harney     | 2                             | \$717,303       |
| Hood River | 6                             | \$3,052,233     |
| Jackson    | 13                            | \$7,401,743     |
| Jefferson  | 2                             | \$2,000,000     |
| Josephine  | 1                             | \$100,000       |
| Klamath    | 3                             | \$1,060,314     |
| Lake       | 2                             | \$125,000       |
| Lane       | 11                            | \$3,050,486     |
| Lincoln    | 3                             | \$295,000       |
| Linn       | 1                             | \$80,000        |
| Malheur    | 1                             | \$1,000,000     |
| Marion     | 8                             | \$3,171,920     |
| Multnomah  | 4                             | \$1,691,591     |
| Polk       | 1                             | \$936,750       |
| Sherman    | 1                             | \$77,500        |
| Umatilla   | 7                             | \$4,815,974     |
| Wallowa    | 1                             | \$485,000       |
| Wasco      | 3                             | \$2,355,267     |
| Washington | 2                             | \$200,000       |
| Yamhill    | 2                             | \$1,100,000     |

#### **Planning Projects**

Awarded planning projects enter into a 12-month performance agreement with ODOE. A Project Plan document is required within six months of agreement execution to verify completion of all planning activities, along with quarterly reporting on project status. Final project reporting is due on or before the 12-month expiration date of the agreement. In certain instances, awardees may request an amendment to extend the timelines if good cause is shown per program rules.

As shown in Table 1 above, the Oregon Department of Energy has awarded planning grants to 50 organizations across Oregon through the program's three opportunity rounds. For rounds one and two 21 planning grants have been completed. In the program's third opportunity round, 24 prior C-REP planning projects applied for construction development grants and two were successfully awarded.

#### **Construction Projects**

Awarded construction development projects execute a 36-month performance agreement with ODOE. All grantees are required to start construction on the renewable energy system within 12 months of executing an agreement to show progress on the project, along with quarterly reporting on project status. Once a project is fully installed, commissioned, and operational, ODOE performs an on-site inspection to confirm the project is substantially the same as proposed and detailed in the agreement. Following project completion, Grantees are required to submit annual reports for five years. As with planning projects, development projects in the C-REP program may request an amendment to extend the time for construction start, and/or agreement expiration or updates to project details, if good cause is shown, as defined by program rules.

As shown in Table 1, the Oregon Department of Energy has awarded 44 organizations across Oregon a construction grant through the program's three opportunity rounds — with 25 projects currently in progress, and two construction development grants fully completed with projects installed and operational. The remaining 17 construction projects were recently selected for round three grant awards.

#### **Program Challenges**

So far, C-REP has conducted three successful opportunity rounds and awarded 94 community planning and construction projects. Alongside program success, ODOE has also identified program challenges.

#### **Participation by Consumer-Owned Utilities**

One challenge is that there is low participation by Consumer-Owned Utilities (COUs). Of the 94 awarded projects, only two were by COUs. Many COUs receive most of their power through the Bonneville Power Administration (BPA), which provides a low-cost and reliable source of power. By statute, hydropower generated under the BPA agreement is not considered a renewable energy system that is eligible to be paired with resilience technologies that can qualify for the Community Renewable Energy Grant Program. Further, many COUs manage only distribution lines and not generation within their service territories. These utilities see less of a need to find resources to support system resilience, grid hardening, and modernization. The limitations on the type of resilience projects eligible under the

program and the program requirement that storage systems be paired with an eligible renewable energy system may be a barrier to participation.

#### **Resilience Focused Projects**

The C-REP program defines two types of projects: community renewable energy projects and community energy resilience projects. Both project types require that the project include renewable energy generation or storage. Creating community energy resilience for structures or facilities that are essential to public welfare extends beyond the generation and storage of renewable energy. Reducing the frequency and duration of outages experienced by a community can improve its overall energy resilience, and this work may not involve the generation or storage of energy. Projects such as hardening of power lines, facilities, or substations; installing fire-resistant technologies; or undergrounding electric lines can aid in reducing the frequency and duration of outages. As the C-REP program is currently structured, these important projects are ineligible for grant consideration.

#### Improving Participation and Support for Smaller, Rural, and Frontier Organizations

After the initial funding rounds, the program identified the following challenges for Oregon's rural and frontier community participation, and where possible has and will continue to attempt to address them:

- The application's competitive review and scoring basis favored organizations with grant development resources.
- 70 percent of grant funds are disbursed as reimbursement of paid or incurred costs at project completion, which makes it difficult for organizations with limited financial resources to carry upfront funding through project completion.
- The program has a requirement for a Certified Public Accountant grant costs verification that can be especially difficult for organizations without an internal CPA or local CPA relationships.

C-REP has been successful in creating a pathway for organizations to develop their community renewable or community resilience concepts into C-REP construction grant applications. Twenty-four of 34 (71 percent) planning grant awardees from the first and second funding rounds applied for a C-REP construction grant in the second or third funding rounds. Yet only three of these 34 organizations (11 percent of those that applied) have been awarded a C-REP construction grant (see above for more on these projects). ODOE staff has determined that the relatively low success rate of prior C-REP planning grants is a result of two factors: 1) the high demand for grants and limited amount of funding creates a high level of competition for C-REP construction grants, and 2) some organizations have difficulty in creating a construction grant application that reflects the proposed project's alignment with program priorities and competitive scoring criteria. These organizations may not have staff with grant application experience and are typically smaller, rural, and frontier organizations.

The program moved to address many of the above challenges by working with the Advisory Committee to adapt competitive review scoring criteria to better align with key legislative priorities and deemphasize areas of the application and application process that created inequitable challenges between rural and frontier communities compared with larger organizations with more resources. The program team also focused on providing support to grant applicants and awardees, including increasing

informational webinars for applicants and holding informal drop-in meetings online during the opportunity application period. However, more can still be done to better support these organizations.

As originally enacted, the C-REP program provided awardees the option of disbursed funding for construction and planning grants in two payments. The first preliminary payment option of up to 30 percent of projected grant funds could be requested by awardees to support the start of a project. Construction awardees were required to submit evidence of project site control, a filed interconnection application with the local electric utility, actual costs incurred to date of request, and/or an estimate of anticipated costs demonstrating need of funds within 12 months of agreement execution with the Oregon Department of Energy.

In 2024, the Legislature made a change to the program through SB 1524 to offer construction awardees an initial 30 percent preliminary payment of grant funds to start projects, then a second disbursement of funds while construction is in progress to help carry projects to completion. The second disbursement option offers better support for all construction projects, but in particular for Oregon's smaller, rural, and frontier community awardees that may have limited financial resources to pay upfront costs for construction.

#### Challenges in Demonstrating Verifiable Economic Benefits

The legislation creating the program requires that a project result in increased community energy resilience, local jobs, economic development, or direct energy cost savings to families and small businesses.

While community energy resilience is a key aspect of most project applications, the other priorities have proven to be a challenge for applicants to provide detailed information on and for the program to verify.

Applicants often have incomplete information or are unable to quantify community benefits at the time of an application. Information about the number of jobs that will be created is often unknown at the time of applying for a grant. The number of jobs becomes clearer once an applicant has selected a contractor, which often happens months after an applicant has been awarded a grant. Most project applications submitted are for public structures, sites, or facilities that benefit the applying organization and have wide community benefits, but for which it can be difficult to demonstrate verifiable economic development benefits to the community or direct energy cost savings to families or businesses. This results in projects being awarded with estimated and unverifiable details relevant to these legislative priorities.

#### **Serving All Potential Applicant Organizations**

The eligible applicant (and project partner) pool for C-REP is extremely large, making it challenging to reach all potential applicants, such as: housing authorities, hospital districts and rural community centers, non-profit organizations (as project partners), emergency shelters, and low-income housing projects that could benefit from resilient renewable energy systems in a grid outage or climate event.

Even with this challenge, the interest in the program exceeds the program's available funding. In Round 3 alone, 37 eligible construction projects requesting \$28,573,258 went unfunded. Competition in future funding rounds is anticipated to grow, and it will be even harder to meet the demand.

#### **Program Goals and Recommendations**

Consistent with the objectives set in HB 2021, the Community Renewable Energy Grant Program continues to support planning and developing community renewable energy projects.



HB 2021 also established two key budget priorities for the Community Renewable Energy Grant Program:

- 50 percent or more for grants to be awarded for planning or developing community renewable energy projects that primarily serve one or more environmental justice communities (qualifying communities); and
- 50 percent or more for grants to be awarded for planning or developing community renewable energy projects that qualify as community energy resilience projects.

To date, the program has met its objective to make community renewable energy projects economically feasible for qualifying communities, with 93.6 percent of grant funds awarded to planning and development projects primarily serving environmental justice communities. The program has also met its objective to provide benefits to communities in the form of increased community energy resilience, with 66 percent of grant funds awarded to projects with a resilience component. Projects awarded through the Community Renewable Energy Grant Program also represent significant opportunities for the creation of local jobs in planning, designing, installing, managing and maintaining community renewable energy systems. These efforts support economic development, and although it has been difficult for many projects to document directly, these projects have supported direct energy costs savings to families and small businesses, including increased energy resilience to support local emergency preparedness and community shelters in a grid outage or climatic event.

#### **Program Improvements**

The program has received feedback from eligible small, rural and frontier communities on the challenges faced when applying for a C-REP grant. To better support organizations in proposing competitive planning and construction projects, program staff is working to make the following improvements:

- Adjust the application language and guidance to better define a project's community benefit.
- Adjust application review and scoring methodology to emphasize a project's community benefits.
- Limit the number of awards to an organization in each round.

#### **Legislative Recommendations**

- Consider expanding the program to include energy resilience projects that do not have a renewable energy component to better serve consumer-owned utilities.
- Continued program funding at \$25 million per biennium from the General Fund.

#### **PROGRAM METRICS**

Note: Program metrics are found throughout this report. This section contains metrics that have not previously been provided.

**Table 2: Primary Community Benefit for Awarded Construction Projects** 

| Primary Community Benefit                 | Count | Funding Awarded |
|---|-------|-----------------|
| Community Resilience Center               | 60    | \$26,048,080    |
| Essential Services                        | 25    | \$12,413,690    |
| Schools/Education & Workforce Development | 5     | \$3,149,924     |
| First Responders                          | 4     | \$231,273       |

**Table 3: Community Energy Resilience Projects Awarded** 

| Community Energy Resilience Projects | Count | Funding Awarded |
|--------------------------------------|-------|-----------------|
| Round 1: Construction                | 9     | \$7,573,859     |
| Round 2: Construction                | 9     | \$6,483,503     |
| Round 3: Construction                | 13    | \$12,110,831    |
| Round 1: Planning                    | 3     | \$250,600       |
| Round 2: Planning                    | 17    | \$1,361,074     |
| Round 3: Planning                    | 11    | \$944,035       |
| Total                                | 57    | \$28,723,902    |

**Table 4: Equity and Key Program Priorities** 

| Equity Measures and Program Priorities   | Number of<br>Awarded<br>Project | Percentage of<br>Awarded<br>Projects |
|--|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Projects located in or serving an Environmental Justice Community  | 89                              | 94%                                  |
| Project will increase Economic Development   | 52                              | 55%                                  |
| Project provides direct energy cost savings to local families and small businesses   | 49                              | 52%                                  |
| Project will create jobs   | 46                              | 48%                                  |
| Projects with policy for using Disadvantaged Business<br>Enterprises, Small Business &/or Minority-Veteran Owned<br>businesses | 26                              | 27%                                  |

Note: Based upon information submitted by applicants

**Table 6: Organization Type Distribution of Projects and Funding** 

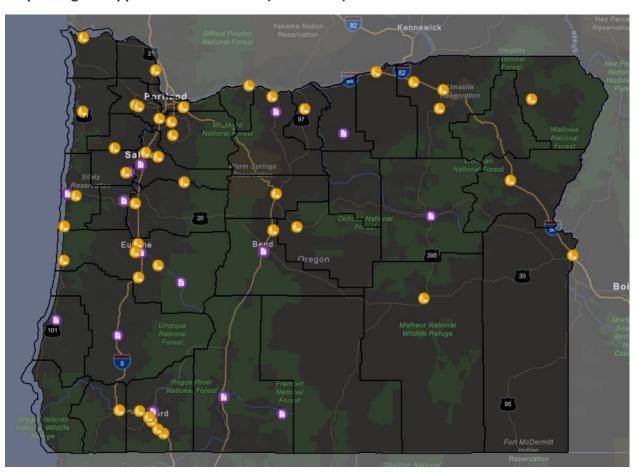
| Organization Type               | Number of<br>Awarded Grants | Funding Awarded |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------|
| Cities                          | 39                          | \$14,847,916    |
| Universities/Community Colleges | 14                          | \$6,690,244     |
| Oregon Tribes                   | 6                           | \$5,026,468     |
| Special Districts               | 11                          | \$4,790,462     |
| Schools/School Districts        | 12                          | \$4,562,895     |
| Counties                        | 8                           | \$3,387,549     |
| Public Libraries                | 3                           | \$1,146,035     |
| Consumer-Owned Utilities        | 2                           | \$968,125       |
| State Agency                    | 1                           | \$38,273        |

**Table 7: Projects and Funding by Economic Development Regions** 

| Geographic Region  | Number of<br>Awarded Grants | Funding Awarded |
|--------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------|
| Central Oregon     | 26                          | \$12,636,874    |
| Southern Oregon    | 21                          | \$11,523,488    |
| Valley North Coast | 29                          | \$10,032,748    |
| Eastern Oregon     | 11                          | \$5,733,277     |
| Metro              | 7                           | \$1,080,780     |

Note: Based on Oregon's federally designated <u>Economic Development Districts</u>

Map 1: Eligible Applications Submitted (All Rounds)



- Construction Development Projects
- Planning Projects

And Person Reservation

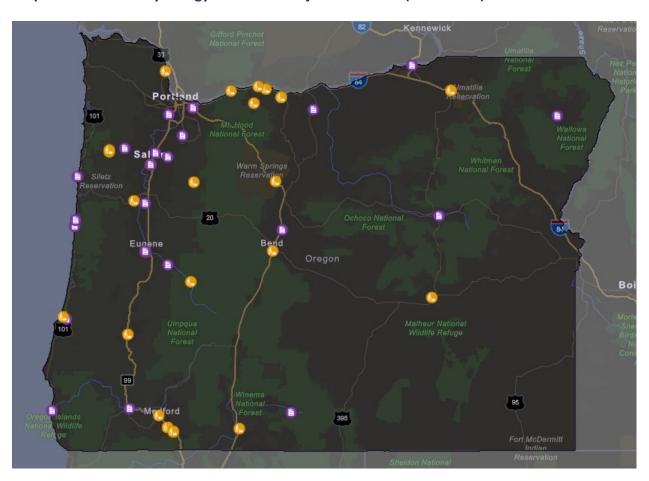
Reserva

Map 2: All Construction and Planning Awardees (All Rounds)



Planning Projects

Map 3: All Community Energy Resilience Project Awardees (All Rounds)



- Construction Development Projects
- Planning Projects

## APPENDIX A: LIST OF C-REP GRANTS AWARDED

| Applicant Organization Name         | Type of Project                           | Awarded   | Description   |
|-------------------------------------|---|-----------|---|
| Academy for Character Education     | Community<br>Renewable Energy<br>Project  | \$100,000 | Planning for a net-metered solar system on a renovated school building with connected battery storage to power emergency lighting.  |
| Bly Water and Sanitary<br>District  | Community<br>Energy Resilience<br>Project | \$7,290   | Planning for net-metered solar PV with up to 200kwh of energy storage capacity across district's five sites to source power and support operations in emergency grid outage.  |
| Burns Paiute Tribe                  | Community<br>Renewable Energy<br>Project  | \$89,718  | Planning for a new district biomass energy system on the Burns Paiute Reservation connecting to multiple tribal facilities.   |
| Central Oregon<br>Community College | Community<br>Renewable Energy<br>Project  | \$70,360  | Installation at Central Oregon Community College's Madras Campus of a net-metered 51kW ground-mount solar PV array to offset 80% of facilities power use via Power Purchase Agreement with Oregon Clean Power Cooperative.  |
| Chemeketa Community<br>College      | Community<br>Energy Resilience<br>Project | \$99,800  | Planning for a net-metered 45kW solar system with a 250kW battery storage system that will serve a community water station. The system will be enrolled in the electric utility's Energy Partner program.   |
| Chemeketa Community<br>College      | Community<br>Energy Resilience<br>Project | \$96,060  | Planning for a 250kW battery storage system paired with an existing netmetered 87kW PV system to provide power to a walk-in cooler, vehicle charging stations, and electric tractor charging station. The project will connect to the electric utility Energy Partner programs. |
| City of Ashland                     | Community<br>Renewable Energy<br>Project  | \$98,840  | Planning for up to a 1MW net-metered solar farm for a low-income community solar program.   |
| City of Ashland,<br>Oregon          | Community<br>Energy Resilience<br>Project | \$940,000 | A community energy resilience project of net-metered solar power with battery storage, electric vehicle chargers and a microgrid system to  |

|                       |   |           | provide electricity to Ashland city services during a grid outage.  |
|-----------------------|---|-----------|---|
| City of Bend          | Community<br>Energy Resilience<br>Project | \$100,000 | Planning for up to 600kW of net-<br>metered solar PV and up to 500kW<br>energy storage across multiple buildings<br>and covered structures at city's new<br>public works campus in development to<br>offset costs and provide emergency<br>continuous power.  |
| City of Cascade Locks | Community<br>Energy Resilience<br>Project | \$436,300 | Construction of a 65kW net-metered, roof mounted PV solar with 110kW battery storage installed on City Hall. Backup power would support community lifelines by maintaining city government operations, supply power to the local food bank, help maintain first responder communications, and allow alerts to be shared with the community. |
| City of Cascade Locks | Community<br>Energy Resilience<br>Project | \$68,000  | Planning for a photovoltaic system with solar (70.6 kW) plus storage (160 kWh) microgrid at the Cascade Locks Fire Station, providing resilient emergency communications and allowing first responders to provide uninterrupted essential medical and fire services.  |
| City of Coos Bay      | Community<br>Energy Resilience<br>Project | \$100,000 | Planning project to include net-metered solar power and battery storage for the North Coos 911 Dispatch Center to support resilient emergency communications for first responders across the region.  |
| City Of Depoe Bay     | Community<br>Energy Resilience<br>Project | \$95,000  | Planning a 130 kW solar PV system with 100 kW battery storage and 180 kg hydrogen fuel cell storage backup at the City Hall, which serves as the Emergency Operations and Communications Center, stores emergency food and supplies, and can be used as a shelter during a disaster or severe weather event.                                |

| City of Eugene                | Community<br>Energy Resilience<br>Project | \$1,000,000 | Installation of a 120 kW solar PV system that will generate 175,700 kWh annually, as well as a 440 kW energy storage system that replaces diesel generator backup power at a public works facility that serves as a critical hub for Public Works first responder staff during seasonal emergencies.                     |
|-------------------------------|---|-------------|--|
| City of Eugene                | Community<br>Renewable Energy<br>Project  | \$100,000   | Planning project to add EV chargers to support Level 2 charging at 16 parking spaces powered by a ground-mounted, grid-tied solar PV array to support regional travelers and the community.  |
| City of Gates                 | Community<br>Renewable Energy<br>Project  | \$13,400    | Planning for a 64kW net-metered solar PV system installed at the water treatment plant, with a 110kWh battery system for power conditioning with short-term backup power capability.   |
| City of Gates -<br>terminated | Community<br>Energy Resilience<br>Project | \$312,852   | Construction of a net-meter 61kW solar PV system with ground-mounted and roof-mounted panels with 125kW battery backup system providing power to the Gate water treatment plant.   |
| City of Gresham               | Community<br>Energy Resilience<br>Project | \$579,841   | A community energy resilience project, in partnership with the Latino Network, for a community center rooftop solar and battery backup system to allow the building to continue to serve the community in the event of grid outages.   |
| City of Gresham               | Community<br>Renewable Energy<br>Project  | \$100,000   | Planning to expand the wastewater treatment plant's biogas cogeneration system output capacity of generators from 800 kW to 1.2 MW. Improvements include expansion of anaerobic digestion, facilities to receive organic waste and improvements to the hot water loop, biosolids storage, and electrical infrastructure. |
| City of Gresham               | Community<br>Energy Resilience<br>Project | \$60,000    | Planning a net-metered solar PV and battery system at the Rockwood Village Apartments to increase climate and energy resilience for a diverse community that experiences climate vulnerability, high energy cost burdens, and barriers to economic opportunity, while also serving as backup power for                   |

|                      |   |             | Feed'em Freedom Foundation's onsite food pantry.   |
|----------------------|---|-------------|--|
| City of Hillsboro    | Community Renewable Energy Project        | \$100,000   | Planning for a community renewable energy project by the Hillsboro water system for hydroelectric generation.  |
| City of Hood River   | Community<br>Renewable Energy<br>Project  | \$500,000   | Installation of a net-metered 100kW in-<br>line hydroelectric system to harness<br>wasted water pressure at the City of<br>Hood River's Pressure Reducing Station<br>(PRS) to generate power.  |
| City of John Day     | Community<br>Energy Resilience<br>Project | \$100,000   | Planning for a net-metered solar system, inline hydropower system, pump hydro and battery storage to power a water pump and water reclamation and treatment systems.   |
| City of Madras       | Community<br>Energy Resilience<br>Project | \$1,000,000 | Installation of 1.14 MW net-metered floating solar project that will generate 1,837,226 kWh net energy and optimize an unusable body of water at the city's wastewater treatment facility, while reducing algae buildup in downline irrigation use by area farmers.  |
| City of Mosier       | Community<br>Energy Resilience<br>Project | \$598,438   | A community energy resilience project that consists of net-metered rooftop solar and battery storage with a microgrid system, allowing the project to supply electricity during grid outages. The system will be installed in Mosier's new net-zero Joint Use Facility that will house the city hall and fire station. The building will serve as an incident command center, emergency response hub and community shelter in emergencies. |
| City of Myrtle Creek | Community<br>Renewable Energy<br>Project  | \$52,500    | Planning for renewable energy systems at City Hall and the Police station (solar-plus-storage), and a solar PV canopy and/or a micro-hydro generation system for the water treatment facility to enhance resilience and offset power costs for critical public facilities.   |
| City of Oakridge     | Community<br>Energy Resilience<br>Project | \$30,000    | Planning for a 250kW net-metered solar PV system and 20kW battery back-up system at the City of Oakridge Willamette Activity Center.   |

| City of Oakridge            | Community<br>Energy Resilience<br>Project | \$332,500   | Installation of a roof-mounted 125 kW solar PV system, estimated to produce 150,480 kW annually, and a 115 kWh battery energy storage system to support critical community facilities and enhance emergency preparedness at Willamette Activity Center.   |
|-----------------------------|---|-------------|---|
| City of Ontario Oregon      | Community<br>Renewable Energy<br>Project  | \$900,000   | A community renewable energy project partnership to complete the construction of the Verde Light Oregon Community Solar project so the City of Ontario and other Idaho Power customers can subscribe to this Oregon Community Solar project.  |
| City of Pendleton           | Community<br>Energy Resilience<br>Project | \$816,424   | A community renewable energy project to install a net-metered solar system at the water treatment plant. In addition to electricity generation, the system will improve the efficiency of the chlorine contact chamber by providing cooling shade.  |
| City of Pendleton           | Community<br>Renewable Energy<br>Project  | \$850,000   | A community energy resilience project, in partnership with the Buckaroo Solar 1 Oregon Community Solar project to provide solar powered microgrid with battery storage to power the Pendleton water treatment plant in the event of grid outages. This project also assists the completion of the Buckaroo Solar 1 Oregon Community Solar project, allowing Pendleton and other Pacific Power customers to subscribe to the solar energy produced under Oregon Community Solar rules. |
| City of Pendleton           | Community<br>Energy Resilience<br>Project | \$1,000,000 | Installation of a 500 kW, 1,100 kWh battery energy storage system and microgrid to ensure uninterrupted operation of essential wastewater treatment facility infrastructure during outages. The project also supports local peak power resilience via Pacific Power's Demand Response program.  |
| City of Pendleton<br>Oregon | Community Renewable Energy Project        | \$49,550    | Planning for a roof-mounted 38kW net-<br>metered solar PV system at the new<br>city public transit campus.  |

| City of Pilot Rock | Community<br>Renewable Energy<br>Project  | \$1,000,000 | City of Pilot Rock partnership with Pilot<br>Rock Solar 2, for the construction of a<br>2.9 MW Oregon Community Solar<br>Program development.   |
|--------------------|---|-------------|---|
| City of Salem      | Community<br>Energy Resilience<br>Project | \$1,000,000 | A community energy resilience project, in partnership with PGE, to create a solar powered community microgrid with battery storage and electric vehicle charging. The system will connect to a solar array and serve Salem's new Public Works Operations building and its electric vehicle charging stations, allowing it to function during grid outages. The microgrid will serve 96 apartments in six buildings, 34 homes, one local business, three other government buildings, and a cellular communications tower, providing uninterrupted power during grid outages. |
| City of Salem      | Community<br>Renewable Energy<br>Project  | \$1,000,000 | Installation of an equivalent 1,758kW biogas boiler/co-gen system to maximize available methane gas to generate thermal heat for operational use at the Salem's Willow Lake Water Pollution Control Facility (WLWPCF).  |
| City of Salem      | Community<br>Renewable Energy<br>Project  | \$100,000   | Planning to develop in-line microhydroelectric turbines to generate energy as a part of decreasing water pressure in the system at Turner pump station (150 kW) and Franzen reservoir (110 kW) with estimated 13x more energy production than current annual site(s) consumption.   |
| City of St. Helens | Community<br>Energy Resilience<br>Project | \$94,585    | Planning for up to 100kW net-metered solar PV with energy storage support and EV charging capabilities at city's new public safety facility.  |
| City of Talent     | Community<br>Renewable Energy<br>Project  | \$45,000    | Planning for a partnership with an Oregon Community Solar developer and local business (landowner) for an Oregon Community Solar Project to allow the City and other Pacific Power customers to subscribe to the project under OCS rules.   |

| City of Talent  | Community<br>Energy Resilience<br>Project | \$116,635   | Construction of a net-metered 33.6kW solar PV system using three solar tracking stands at two sites in Talent. One site will include 10kW of battery storage with backup power provided to a community center that serves as an emergency operations center.  |
|---|---|-------------|---|
| City of The Dalles  | Community<br>Energy Resilience<br>Project | \$758,051   | Construction of a 79 kW PV net-<br>metered rooftop solar with 60kW<br>battery storage and emergency circuits<br>to provide power during grid outages,<br>and two level 2 electric vehicle charging<br>stations. Project will be installed on a<br>newly constructed multi-use<br>community facility that will serve as a<br>shelter during emergencies. |
| City of Tigard  | Community<br>Energy Resilience<br>Project | \$100,000   | Planning for a large solar-plus-storage system to support a planned and existing affordable housing development, public works, police and emergency operations center, and a planned community center.  |
| City of Yachats   | Community<br>Energy Resilience<br>Project | \$100,000   | Planning for net-metered renewable energy systems with battery storage and microgrid controllers at the Yachats Civic Campus facilities   |
| Columbia County   | Community<br>Energy Resilience<br>Project | \$992,116   | Construction of a net-metered 32kW PV solar system with 125kW battery storage and backup power circuitry for county operations in the John Gumm building.   |
| Confederated Tribe of<br>Umatilla Indian<br>Reservation       | Community<br>Renewable Energy<br>Project  | \$1,000,000 | A community energy resilience project with net-metered solar at the tribe's new constructed Timine Way Apartment Complex, and completion assistance for the Tutuilla Community Solar site at the tribe's Coyote Business Park with 10% system generation dedicated to tribal members.   |
| Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua and Siuslaw Indians | Community<br>Energy Resilience<br>Project | \$1,000,000 | A community energy resilience project with net-metered solar and battery storage with microgrid systems to power tribal buildings during grid outages.  |

| Confederated Tribes of<br>Grand Ronde<br>Community of Oregon          | Community<br>Energy Resilience<br>Project | \$1,000,000 | Installation of a 148 kW roof-mounted solar PV system that will generate 309,750 annually, and a 660kW energy storage system for the Tribe's Resident Resilience Center that serves as a safe space for nearly 2,500 community members to shelter and support during climate events                                 |
|---|---|-------------|---|
| Confederated Tribes of<br>Grand Ronde<br>Community of Oregon<br>(CDC) | Community<br>Energy Resilience<br>Project | \$936,750   | Installation of a 148 kW roof-mounted solar PV system that will generate 309,750 kWh annually, and a 660 kW energy storage system supporting the tribal community's Child Development Center.   |
| Confederated Tribes of<br>Warm Springs                                | Community<br>Energy Resilience<br>Project | \$1,000,000 | Installation of a 108 kW solar PV system generating 272,195 kWh annually, with a 240kW energy storage system for Phase 1 to position Indian Head as the first tribal casino in the state to achieve net-zero energy status while simultaneously providing essential community resilience services.                  |
| Curry Public Library<br>District                                      | Community<br>Energy Resilience<br>Project | \$98,375    | Planning for a net metered 75 kW solar canopy with 50 kW battery storage to offset energy costs and provide community access and shelter services, including community kitchen operations during a prolonged outage or catastrophic event.  |
| Deschutes County  | Community<br>Renewable Energy<br>Project  | \$1,000,000 | A community renewable energy project, in partnership the Mt. Bachelor Ski Report for Biomass district heating system to replace a propane heating system for four buildings at the Mt. Bachelor Ski Report. The biomass plant burns forest waste (understory) that would otherwise be burned openly in slash piles. |
| Deschutes County  | Community<br>Energy Resilience<br>Project | \$100,000   | Planning for net-metered 500kW solar PV and minimum 100kW energy storage to support well site pumps for potable water filtration and storage system with part-time power diversion to EV chargers.  |

| Deschutes Public<br>Library               | Community<br>Energy Resilience<br>Project | \$1,000,000 | Construction of a 828kW net-metered solar PV system on roof and covered parking of new central library in Bend. A 50kW backup battery storage system is included to provide emergency lighting and the main data room.  |
|---|---|-------------|---|
| Emerald People's<br>Utility District      | Community<br>Energy Resilience<br>Project | \$868,125   | Installation at Short Mountain Landfill of 201.6kW net-metered, ground-mounted PV solar for a community solar project with low-income set-aside. Includes with 156kWh of battery storage and microgrid controllers for load balancing and limited off-grid operations.  |
| Eugene Airport (EUG)                      | Community<br>Energy Resilience<br>Project | \$100,000   | Planning project to pair solar PV power plant and battery storage with microgrid controls and digital energy management system to provide clean backup power to critical facilities and loads at the Eugene Airport.  |
| High Desert Biomass<br>Cooperative (HDBC) | Community<br>Energy Resilience<br>Project | \$627,585   | A community energy resilience project in partnership with the U.S. Forest Service, that will expand the capacity and customer base of the cooperative-owned biomass-powered district heating system. This expansion will bring heating to the Veterans Village apartments and allow more local customers to be added. The biomass plant burns forest waste (understory) that would otherwise be burned openly in slash piles. |
| Hood River County                         | Community<br>Energy Resilience<br>Project | \$75,000    | Planning for 29-70kW net-metered PV solar plus 30-60kW storage system with microgrid controller to provide backup power to Mount Hood Town Hall.  |
| Hood River County                         | Community<br>Energy Resilience<br>Project | \$972,933   | Installation of 55 kW solar canopies that will generate 70,320 kWh annually, and 60 kW/307 kWh of battery storage to run emergency operations or a community shelter at the Mount Hood Town Hall serving the Upper Hood River Valley community.   |

| Hood River County<br>School District    | Community<br>Energy Resilience<br>Project | \$1,000,000 | Purchase of a portion of the solar PV array (282 kW), battery storage (250 kW/330 kWh), and microgrid controllers to serve as a distribution point and/or community shelter where residents can access essential resources. The project also supports the district's innovative federally funded MOVER project, using electric school bus and light-duty electric fleet vehicles as mobile energy storage with solar PV and microgrid technology. |
|---|---|-------------|---|
| Jackson County School<br>District No. 6 | Community<br>Energy Resilience<br>Project | \$977,995   | A community energy resilience project putting net-metered rooftop solar on the Center Point elementary school with battery storage and a microgrid systems to provide power to critical circuits during grid outages.   |
| Klamath Community<br>College            | Community<br>Energy Resilience<br>Project | \$50,600    | Planning for the on-campus installation of a net-metered rooftop solar system with battery storage, critical load circuits, and electric vehicle charging for eight stations  |
| Klamath Community<br>College            | Community<br>Energy Resilience<br>Project | \$999,424   | Construction of a 45kW net-metered PV solar system with 25kW battery backup on the new KCC training facility.   |
| Lake Health District                    | Community<br>Renewable Energy<br>Project  | \$25,000    | Planning project to improve and/or expand geothermal heating sources for Lake District Hospital, a critical medical services and community shelter facility during emergencies, and support improvements to the district's geothermal heating system serving Lakeview schools and a Head Start facility.  |
| Lane Community College                  | Community Renewable Energy Project        | \$100,000   | Planning for expanding renewable energy installations on campus.  |
| Linn-Benton<br>Community College        | Community<br>Energy Resilience<br>Project | \$75,000    | Planning 125.6 kW solar PV system with a 660 kW battery microgrid system to support a campus alternate emergency operations center, as well as support emergency care for animal sheltering at the Agricultural Center during a grid outage or emergency event.   |

| Lowell School District<br>#71                 | Community<br>Energy Resilience<br>Project | \$100,000 | Planning a 100kW net-metered solar PV system with 250kW battery storage and microgrid controllers to supply power to critical services at Lowell High School.  |
|---|---|-----------|--|
| Medford Irrigation<br>District                | Community<br>Renewable Energy<br>Project  | \$50,000  | Planning a 240 kW net-metered hydro turbine system by adding pipeline pressure via the region's Joint System Canal (JSC) from water diverted for agricultural use, which will improve the resiliency and durability of the conveyance system, reduce operation and maintenance costs, and conserve water instream for threatened coho salmon and other fish habitat. |
| Medford School<br>District                    | Community Renewable Energy Project        | \$85,000  | Planning for net-metered solar PV at two schools, paired with EV charging and possibly battery storage   |
| Molalla Rural Fire<br>Protection District #73 | Community<br>Energy Resilience<br>Project | \$70,939  | Planning for up to 25kW of net-metered solar PV and energy storage for rural fire station in Mulino, OR to support continuous operations in emergency or grid outage.  |
| Multnomah County                              | Community<br>Energy Resilience<br>Project | \$70,000  | Planning for net-metered 540kW solar PV system and 250kW energy storage to source power for new library; and operate key building systems and provide community support during grid outages and emergencies.   |
| North Unit Irrigation<br>District             | Community<br>Energy Resilience<br>Project | \$100,000 | Planning to pipe 8000 feet of Redmond's main irrigation canal to generate up to 1.4MW net-metered inpipe hydroelectric, including energy storage opportunities to support critical facilities in the area for power offset and emergency operations.   |
| Oregon State Police                           | Community<br>Renewable Energy<br>Project  | \$38,273  | Planning for a roof-mounted 200kW net-metered photovoltaic system on the Oregon State Police Southern Command Center with microgrid circuitry to convert the solar power and allow its use directly by the building electrical system.   |

| Oregon State<br>University            | Community<br>Energy Resilience<br>Project | \$999,000   | Installation of 249 kW roof-mounted, net-metered photovoltaic array on two OSU Corvallis campus buildings, plus a 1.44 MWh, 240 kW grid interactive battery storage system that provides crucial infrastructure and maintains power to OSU's Link Oregon node to provide data services to local first responders and the broader community during extended outages from climate or seismic events. |
|---------------------------------------|---|-------------|--|
| Oregon State<br>University – Cascades | Community<br>Renewable Energy<br>Project  | \$100,000   | Planning geo-exchange system expansion through a local aquifer, providing primary campus thermal energy with anticipated 2,205 kW and 2,980,000 kWh annually, and serving as a regional living lab for renewable energy learning.  |
| Oregon State<br>University-Cascades   | Community<br>Energy Resilience<br>Project | \$1,000,000 | Expansion of a geo-exchange nodal hub and infrastructure to provide resilient heating and cooling for campus, calculated at 985 kW. The project also serves as a living laboratory on campus for students and others to evaluate the renewable energy solutions onsite.  |
| Phoenix Talent School<br>District     | Community<br>Energy Resilience<br>Project | \$1,000,000 | Talent Middle School installation of 103kW net-metered, ground-mounted PV solar with 560kWh of battery storage and microgrid controllers for off-grid operations, including as an emergency shelter.   |
| Phoenix Talent School<br>District     | Community<br>Energy Resilience<br>Project | \$1,000,000 | Installation of 108 kW solar PV, generating 168,600 kWh annually with a 440kW battery at Talent Elementary School. The school is a focal point for community activities, gatherings, and support networks, while also serving as a primary evacuation center, community shelter, and food and medical assistance location.   |
| Rogue Community<br>College            | Community<br>Energy Resilience<br>Project | \$100,000   | Planning for net-metered solar PV and energy storage microgrid at RCC's Redwood Campus to operate campus backup drinking water system in an emergency; and exploring energy  |

|  |   |             | storage and EV charging potential at all three RCC campus sites.   |
|--|---|-------------|--|
| Roseburg Urban<br>Sanitary Authority<br>(RUSA) | Community<br>Energy Resilience<br>Project | \$1,000,000 | Installation of 400 kW floating solar PV system that generates 536,074 kWh annually at the Natural Treatment System's storage pond. The project will maximize energy generation and land efficiency, reduce environmental impact, and curb evaporation and algae growth to enhance the ecological health of the pond and lower effluent temperatures to the river. |
| Roseburg Urban<br>Sanitary<br>Authority(RUSA)  | Community<br>Energy Resilience<br>Project | \$1,000,000 | Installation of 800 kW solar PV generating 1.2 MWh annually to offset 44 percent of the wastewater treatment plant's energy usage, and provides energy resilience during grid outages — ensuring operation and reliability of crucial public welfare services.   |
| Roseburg Urban<br>Sanitary<br>Authority.(RUSA) | Community<br>Energy Resilience<br>Project | \$870,870   | Installation of 50 kW solar PV array generating 51,580 kWh annually, with a 186 kW battery storage system at the utility's main office. The office serves as a critical hub for managing and overseeing essential sanitation and waste management operations within the community.   |
| Sheridan School<br>District 48J                | Community<br>Energy Resilience<br>Project | \$99,900    | Planning for a ground-mounted 400kW solar PV system with 100kW battery storage and microgrid system serving a new Sheridan School District career technical center facility that will also serve as community shelter.   |
| Sherman County                                 | Community<br>Energy Resilience<br>Project | \$77,500    | Planning for a net-metered 100kW solar PV system with 120kW storage system to support facility operations during a power outage with microgrid, demand response/reduction and V2G electric vehicle charging technologies.  |
| Silver Falls Library<br>District               | Community<br>Energy Resilience<br>Project | \$47,660    | Planning a 72 kW solar PV, battery storage, and microgrid system to support resilient library operations, offset costs, and provide a community shelter during brief power outages. The project will support communications  |

|   |   |             | such as internet access, phone and medical device charging, and refrigeration of critical medical supplies.   |
|---|---|-------------|---|
| Southern Oregon<br>University             | Community<br>Energy Resilience<br>Project | \$1,000,000 | A community energy resilience project putting net-metered rooftop solar on two campus buildings with battery storage in one building to supply a critical load circuit.   |
| Southern Oregon<br>University             | Community<br>Renewable Energy<br>Project  | \$1,000,000 | Construction of a net-metered 338 kW (DC) solar PV array on elevated parking structures with shading benefit, including installation of eight additional EV charging stations to benefit Southern Oregon University students and the Ashland community.   |
| Southern Oregon<br>University             | Community<br>Energy Resilience<br>Project | \$1,000,000 | Installation of net metered 159 kW parking lot canopy solar PV system, generating 237,897 kWh annually with a 184 kWh battery to maintain internet communications and provide community support services at the Lithia Center during emergency events.  |
| Southwest Lincoln<br>County Water PUD     | Community<br>Energy Resilience<br>Project | \$40,000    | Planning to determine appropriate system and energy storage sizing at several district facilities and in-pipe micro-hydroelectric generation at two water treatment facilities including netmeter potential to reduce/minimize water utility costs and provide emergency backup power.                        |
| Springfield Utility<br>Board - terminated | Community Renewable Energy Project        | \$100,000   | Planning for a 200kW-1MW net-<br>metered PV solar farm on COU property<br>for a community solar project.  |
| Town of Lakeview,<br>Oregon               | Community<br>Renewable Energy<br>Project  | \$100,000   | Planning for the expanded use of the Lakeview Hammersley geothermal well for district heating to city residences, business and public facilities.   |
| Twin Rivers Charter<br>School             | Community<br>Energy Resilience<br>Project | \$100,000   | Planning a net-metered solar-plus-<br>storage and EV charging project to<br>improve both the school's and<br>surrounding neighborhood's energy<br>resilience and provide an emergency<br>relief shelter for the Laurel Hill Valley<br>community during prolonged grid<br>outages or climate emergency events. |

| Umatilla School District                                | Community<br>Energy Resilience<br>Project | \$100,000 | Planning net-metered solar-plus-<br>storage and EV charging systems at two<br>new district sites to improve the energy<br>resilience of essential facilities,<br>including uninterrupted power supply<br>to the kitchen and food storage, ability<br>to provide emergency community<br>shelter during natural hazard events,<br>and educational benefits for students<br>and the broader community.   |
|---|---|-----------|---|
| Wallowa County  | Community<br>Energy Resilience<br>Project | \$485,000 | Planning for community energy resilience projects in Wallowa, Joseph and Independence, looking at a variety of renewable energy resources to couple with storage and microgrid systems to give each city an energy resilience system to keep critical services and buildings powered during grid outages.   |
| Wasco County Soil and<br>Water Conservation<br>District | Community<br>Energy Resilience<br>Project | \$998,778 | Deployment of FEMA-approved, semi- mobile BEAM EV ARC 2020 solar-plus- storage-plus-EV charging units at four rural, critical public-use locations in Wasco County. Funds will also support two Voltstack 30 k Level 3 Mobile e- Charger Portable Power systems at Dufur School's gym and School-Based Health Center, which serves as the area's emergency event command center and community shelter — with a larger goal of showing a potential replicable and scalable approach for other rural and remote Oregon communities. |

## FOR MORE INFORMATION

The Oregon Department of Energy
550 NE Capitol Street NE
Salem, OR 97301
503-378-4040 | 800-221-8035

<u>askenergy@oregon.gov</u> <u>www.oregon.gov/energy</u>



