

Energy Trust of Oregon is an independent nonprofit organization dedicated to helping utility customers benefit from saving energy and tapping renewable resources. Our work helps keep energy costs as low as possible, creates jobs, and builds a sustainable energy future. Energy Trust operates three renewable power programs:

The **Solar Electric and Thermal Programs** are a long-term market transformation initiative to make solar photovoltaic (PV) and direct-use (thermal) solar more accessible and affordable in Oregon. By providing cash incentives, marketing, standards, education, training, project screening, and quality assurance, the program's goal is to create a long-term sustainable market.

The **Biopower Program's** goal is to acquire significant amounts of renewable energy from wood-fired and other biomass generation and develop markets for less mature energy resources such as dairy manure and forest biomass. The program offers financial incentives, cost-sharing for feasibility studies, and other assistance.

The **Other Renewables Program** supports small and community-scale wind, geothermal electric, and hydro-power. In addition to cash incentives for projects, the program provides cost-share funding for feasibility studies and technical assistance. The wind initiative also provides support for a network of wind installers, resource monitoring, and marketing.



Energy Trust's board president John Reynolds attended the ribbon-cutting for the city of Albany's 500 kW hydro project. The turbine and generator are part of the city's drinking water system.



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HIGHLIGHTS



Energy Trust provided an incentive to help Mike and Chris Bernards install a 10 kW Abundant Renewable Energy turbine at their farm in Yamhill County. The turbine is mounted on a 120 foot tower.



Photo courtesy of Mark Olson, Dynalectric. No duplication without owner's permission.

This 859 kW PV system powers Portland Habilitation Center's (PHC) industrial facility, where people with developmental, physical, and mental disabilities receive education, training, and union jobs. PHC's president was instrumental in getting Oregon to increase its size limit for net-metered systems. The PV system was financed with a flip model in one of the first uses of that third-party financing vehicle in the state.

"The energy field is changing rapidly. Working with other organizations doing work similar to ours helps Energy Trust of Oregon track changes in the market and provide the most effective programs possible for customers."

Peter West

During 2008 and 2009, Energy Trust of Oregon:

Provided **INCENTIVES** for 740 PV systems that total 10 MW of capacity, along with 374 solar water heating systems, saving 664 MWh and 28,000 therms annually.

Collaborated with a neighborhood association on an **INNOVATIVE BULK SOLAR PURCHASE** effort. More than 100 homes are planning to install PV systems through the program.

Launched the **SMALL WIND INITIATIVE** to support the growth of a small wind industry in Oregon. Eleven projects, ranging in size from 2.4 kW to 20 kW, have been installed. The number of wind installers working in Oregon has grown from a small handful to nearly 20.

Provided incentives for three **HYDROPOWER** projects with combined capacity of 620 kW. Three more projects are under construction.

Published a set of **HYDRO PERMITTING GUIDEBOOKS** designed to assist communities in successfully navigating the state and federal permitting and exemption process.

Assisted more than 50 rural small businesses in applying for **USDA RURAL ENERGY FOR AMERICA** grants.



Stahlbush Island Farms in Corvallis, a national leader in sustainable agriculture and food production, has begun full operations of the first-of-its-kind biogas plant in North America by producing electricity from fruits and vegetable by-product. The project capacity is 1.6 MW and is expected to generate 12,500 MWh annually.