



National Renewable
Energy Laboratory

State &
Local Initiatives



Your bridge to renewable energy and energy efficiency resources.

Lowering energy consumption using renewable energy and energy efficiency is smart. It not only protects the environment, it benefits the economy.

What clean energy technologies are reliable and available in your state? Which will work best for you? What resources are available to help you make the best choices and policies you can?

To help you find the right person or resource, contact the State and Local

Initiatives team at the National Renewable Energy Laboratory, the nation's premiere renewable energy and energy efficiency research facility. The State and Local Initiatives team was designed to be a bridge between you — policymakers, states, and communities — and the technical resources you need to make informed decisions.





What Is State and Local Initiatives?

As a legislator, policymaker, or state or community leader, you may have questions about implementing or creating policies for renewable energy or energy efficient technologies. NREL's State and Local Initiatives team can connect you to the latest research findings on technologies, economic analysis by our national experts, and policy trends and case studies from other states put together by our policy experts.

By taking advantage of pooled information, ideas, resources, and expertise, you can make more effective decisions and policies about energy efficiency as well as distributed energy and renewable energy technologies like wind, photovoltaics, solar hot water, biomass, hydropower, geothermal energy, and biofuels.

Set Your Sights on Clean Energy

You can strengthen your economy by improving energy efficiency in homes and businesses, and by using clean energy technologies to power them. By adding more types of energy technologies to your electricity production pool, you can prepare for weather emergencies and minimize health risks for your state or community, avoid price volatility in the electricity market, and help keep blackouts from happening. Growing more than 20% per year, the renewable energy manufacturing industry can even provide additional income in rural areas.

And clean energy technologies — like wind, photovoltaics, solar hot water, biomass, hydropower, geothermal energy, distributed energy resources, and biofuels — are good for the environment. As cost for renewable technologies continue to go down and become even more reliable, more and more people are demanding cleaner sources to power their homes and businesses.



Navigate the Possibilities

Wading through energy-related information from the many excellent agencies, organizations, Web sites, and research can be confusing and overwhelming.

As your liaison at the National Renewable Energy Laboratory — one of the world's most well-respected research facilities on energy efficiency and clean energy technologies — we can smooth your way. We will connect you to the people, resources, and information you need to help you make informed decisions, create sound policy, educate your constituency, and improve your economy and environment.

Chart Your Course

Are you considering a cleaner power program in your area? Do you want to learn to incorporate breakthrough energy technologies into your buildings? Are you trying to adopt energy policies and need to know what's working in other communities and states?

We can link you with resources to make smart energy decisions — so that you can decrease money spent on energy in schools, recruit high-tech jobs into your community, and be prepared for a cleaner energy future. We have helped other states and communities with the following:

- Programs designed to meet specific state or community goals
- Expert testimony (Informational)
- Policy reviews
- Resource assessments and cost data
- Clearinghouse information on other states' experience
- Training and education
- Environmental analysis



State Energy Alternatives Web Site



Imagine a Web site where you can click on your state and find out its potential for wind power or current cost information for renewable energy technologies. The State Energy Alternatives Web Site was designed to help you find which technologies and policies will work best in your state.

www.eren.doe.gov/state_energy/index.cfm

The site describes eight renewable energy technologies — wind, photovoltaics, biomass, solar thermal, concentrating solar power, geothermal, biofuels, and hydropower — and includes cost information and examples of existing applications. The site will walk you

through the policy options that lawmakers around the country are using to incorporate renewable energy into their state energy portfolios. In the future, the site will include energy-efficient buildings technologies.



The National Renewable Energy Laboratory

As the nation's leading center for renewable energy research, NREL is developing new energy technologies to benefit both the environment and the economy.

There's no shortage of renewable energy and energy efficiency resources. With guidance and funding from the U.S. Department of Energy, NREL researchers will continue to improve efficiencies and lower costs to competitive levels. NREL also works with utilities, state regulatory agencies, the World Bank, and international trade groups to make sure that renewable energy and energy efficiency technologies reach the marketplace as quickly as possible.

NREL's mission is to lead the nation toward a sustainable energy future with research supporting the "Three Es" — energy, economy, and the environment.

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www.nrel.gov/business/state.html



Resources for Additional Information:

State Energy Alternatives

www.eren.doe.gov/state_energy/

www.sustainable.doe.gov

www.eren.doe.gov/states/

www.eren.doe.gov/rso.html



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