



Small Scale Solar

Direct Ownership- Application

Section I: Intent to Open an Application

Program details and application instructions can be found at:

<http://commerceri.com/finance-business/renewable-energy-fund/small-scale-projects/>



Rhode Island Renewable Energy Fund

Frequently Asked Questions

1.) Who is eligible for financing through the REF Small-Scale Solar Program

Grants are available to businesses, homeowners, non-profits, state facilities, municipalities and eligible affordable housing.

2.) What size projects are eligible under the Small-Scale Solar Direct Ownership (D.O) Program?

Solar photovoltaic (PV) projects and Solar Domestic Hot Water (SDHW) projects are limited based on the total grant amount rather than size of project in the Small Scale Solar Program. A PV project is eligible for up to \$8,000 grant at an incentive of \$1.00/W and a SDHW project is eligible for up to \$4,000 at an incentive of 25% of the total project costs.

3.) Why is Commerce RI requiring that projects be grouped together by a solar installer, third party ownership company (TPO), neighborhood association, or other grouping mechanism approved by Commerce RI?

By submitting multiple small solar projects under one application, the contractor will realize economies of scale which can pass savings onto the customer. More projects will get installed at better prices and with streamlined administrative procedures at Commerce RI.

4.) Why can't a Renewable Energy Fund (REF) grant be combined with a Renewable Energy Growth (REG) program?

The RE Growth Program is separate and distinct from Net Metering. An eligible DG project can elect to receive compensation under the Net Metering Provision, R.I.P.U.C. No. 2150. A Net Metering project can supply their own power to offset their energy consumption through a netting process that compensates customers with net metering credits designed even out monthly billings over twelve months. Customers participating in Net Metering are not eligible for participation in RE Growth Program.

Please refer to National Grid's FAQ's, page #5, point #8 for more details:

https://www9.nationalgridus.com/narragansett/non_html/RI%20Renewable%20Energy%20Growth%20Program%20FAQs%20v12.0.pdf

5.) Why is an energy audit important?

The integration of energy efficiency and renewable energy generation is crucial to the success of a project. The energy produced from a renewable energy project will offset a higher percentage of a building's energy use if energy efficiency measures are implemented. Commerce RI wants the project owner be aware of current energy usage through an energy audit, rather than require efficiency measures to be installed prior to seeking funding. Free energy audits are available through National Grid. Learn more at:

<https://www1.nationalgridus.com/HomeRI-RI-RES>

6.) When will the next round of funding be available?

All dates are subject to change. Applications will be considered in the order of arrival, but approximate timelines can be found on Commerce RI's website. Subject to availability of funds.

Rhode Island Renewable Energy Fund Submission Instructions

Please submit a complete electronic copy to REF@commerceri.com

Optional: Applications can be submitted in person or mailed USPS certified mail to the following address:

Rhode Island Commerce Corporation

Attn: Annie Ratanasim

315 Iron Horse Way, Suite 101

Providence, RI 02908

Please submit applications and questions to the REF Staff members at REF@commerceri.com

- Interested parties are requested to notify Commerce RI of the intention to apply to the Renewable Energy Fund as soon as possible prior to submitting the application by emailing REF@commerceri.com or calling 401-278-9100.
- **Read and review the REF Rules and Regulations before completing this application.** A copy of the proposed Rules may be obtained by mail or email or by calling 401-278-9100, or may be accessed online at: <http://commerceri.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/12/REF-Rules-and-Regulations-2017-870-RICR-20-00-1-.pdf>
- All applicants are advised that any and all records (documents, correspondence, memoranda, etc.), regardless of the form provided, received or maintained by COMMERCE RI and/or the REF, may be a matter of public record and subject to release under the Rhode Island Access to Public Records Act (R.I. Gen. Laws §38-2-1 et seq.). Commerce RI does however have the right to redact any information which is exempt under the statute before releasing the documents. The exemptions that would most pertain to financing or grant applications include but are not limited to reports and statements of strategy or negotiation, trade secrets and commercial and financial information which is privileged or confidential pursuant to R.I. Gen. Laws §38-2-2. As such, we suggest that any portion of the application or materials provided by the applicant that contains such information (including for example, customer lists, processes, etc. or financial information) be clearly labeled with a legend or marking such as "Confidential information -- Not Public Record". This does not guarantee that the information so marked will necessarily be exempt from public release, as Commerce RI will make any final determination about which information is to be made available to the public, but this will be helpful in identifying any records which may be exempt.
- **All requirements must be met.**
- **Incomplete applications will not be processed.**
- **Awards are dependent on funding availability.**

A. Applicant Information

Applicant: (Installer/Developer)	
Address:	
City, State, Zip:	
Contact Name:	
Phone:	
Email:	
Website:	
Type of Entity (ex: LLC, neighborhood association, solar contractor, renewable energy developer etc.):	
Activities of Entity:	
Please describe the Applicant's presence in Rhode Island: (In terms of # of employees, percentage of total employees in RI, and/or history of doing business in RI)	
Does the applicant plan to contract with a 3rd party finance company on the enclosed projects?	
If yes, which company will provide 3 rd party financing to the applicant's customers?	

B. Qualifications of and Project Personnel

Qualification Information:

All items listed below are required from the contractor/installer company

Installer registered in RI: http://www.sos.ri.gov/divisions/business-portal	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No- If so, please register
Registered with the State of Rhode Island Contractors' Registration and Licensing Board: (For any company installing solar)	Registration #:
Rhode Island Renewable Energy Professional License (REP) information:	License #:
Master Electrician Information:	Name:
	License #:
	Company:
	Summary of Experience:

Personnel Information

Summarize the selected installer qualifications with regards to this application. Additionally, provide concise qualifications of each member on the core project team.

Key Project Personnel Name:	
Key Project Personnel Title:	
Company:	
Summary of Experience:	



Key Project Personnel Name:	
Key Project Personnel Title:	
Company:	
Summary of Experience:	

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C. Application Authorization

The undersigned is an authorized representative of the Applicant listed below with the authority to bind the company for the proposed Renewable Energy Project. The Applicant has read, understands, and agrees to be bound by the terms and conditions provided by the Rhode Island Commerce Corporation (COMMERCE RI).

I certify that:

- All statements made in this Application in its entirety including all attachments, appendices, etc. are true and correct to the best of my knowledge.
- The Applicant is neither a person subject to the Rhode Island Code of Ethics nor a person within the scope of R.I.G.L. § 36-14-5(h)
- The Applicant has not been convicted of bribery or attempting to bribe a public official or employee of the COMMERCE RI or of the State, has not been disqualified from an awarded contract with COMMERCE RI or the State, and has never defaulted on work awarded by the COMMERCE RI or the State.
- The Applicant does not have a relationship or affiliation, financial or otherwise, with any other Applicant applying to this round of funding with the COMMERCE RI Renewable Energy Fund.
- The Applicant understands that customers participating in the Renewable Energy Fund Program are not eligible for participation in the Renewable Energy Growth Program.**

Category:	Please print. Sign on the grey fields.
Legal Name of Applicant:	
Company or Department Name (if applicable):	
Signature of Applicant's Authorized Representative:	X
Name of Authorized Representative:	
Title/Company:	
Date Signed:	



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Section II: Individual Project Submissions



D. Required Project Attachments

Please submit the following documents for each project site. Please submit a completed chart, mark “Yes or No” in each box. If any of the attachments are absent, please provide an explanation. The full definition of each attachment is found in the solicitation for projects document.

Attachments:	Checkbox
Signed Turnkey Contract	
Minimum 3-year workmanship warranty	
ROI/ simple payback	
Electricity bill/Fuel Bill	
Layout drawing	
Aerial image	
Photo - Southern Exposure	
Shade Analysis (photos and summary sheet) at least 80% TSRF	
One-line electric drawing	
Energy Audit	
Is this a Solarize Program a Project?	

E. Site Specific Data: Solar Photovoltaic

Please fill out this table in entirety for each PV project site.

Name on Electric Bill:	
Email Address of Site Owner:	
Phone Number of the Site Owner	
Street Address of Project:	
Town and Zip Code:	
PV module manufacturer:	
Model:	
Quantity:	
Inverter Manufacturer:	
Model:	
Quantity:	
DC System Rating:	
Total Annual Production: (AC wattage x 4.6 hours of sunlight x number of panels x 0.8)	
Array Type:	<input type="checkbox"/> Fixed <input type="checkbox"/> Tracking
Array Mounting:	<input type="checkbox"/> Ground <input type="checkbox"/> Roof <input type="checkbox"/> Other
Age of roof:	
Expected remaining lifespan of roof:	
Length of Manufacturers' System Warranty:	
Is this project located in a Historic District:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

F. Site Specific Data: Solar Domestic Hot Water

Please fill out this table in entirety for each SDHW project site.

Name of Project Site Owner:	
Name on Electric Bill:	
Email Address of Site Owner:	
Phone Number of the Site Owner	
Street Address of Project:	
Town and Zip Code:	
Manufacturer of Hot Water Collector:	
Model:	
Quantity	
Length of Manufacturers' System Warranty:	
Total Square Footage of Collectors:	
Rated BTU Output (SRCC rating):	
Total Estimated Production: (F-chart or equivalent)	
Collector Type:	<input type="checkbox"/> Plates <input type="checkbox"/> Tubes <input type="checkbox"/> Other
Collector Mounting:	<input type="checkbox"/> Ground <input type="checkbox"/> Roof <input type="checkbox"/> Other
Age of Roof:	
Expected remaining lifespan of roof:	
Is this project located in a Historic District:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No



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Section III: Final Application Submission



G. Required Attachments for Application

Please Submit the following items to the application due date

Attachment	Yes/No	If no, please explain
Completed W-9 Form from the installer company. Form can be found here: http://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/fw9.pdf		
Manufacturer equipment specification sheets for all projects		
Project Overview		
Executive Summary		

H. Project Overview

Please calculate the total number projects, kilowatts and dollar amount incentive you are applying for in this solicitation period.

How many total projects are you applying for?	_____
How many total kW are you applying for?	_____ total kW
Total REF Amount Requested: (Not to exceed \$150,000)	\$ _____

I. Executive Summary

Please provide a brief description of the proposed projects. Include what the requested funds will be used for. Explain why this project fits with the goals of your entity and customers. Describe the benefits these projects will bring to Rhode Island. Not to exceed one page.