

What is the Clean Energy Development Fund?

The Clean Energy Development Fund was established in 2005 through ACT 74 and is funded through proceeds due to the state under the terms of two memoranda of understanding between the DPS and Entergy. The CEDF will receive payments from \$4-7 million annually from Entergy through 2012 as well as one-time funds through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act.

The purpose of the CEDF is to promote the development and deployment of cost-effective and environmentally sustainable electric power and thermal energy or geothermal resources, and emerging energy-efficient technologies – primarily with respect to renewable energy resources, and the use of combined heat and power (CHP) technologies – for the long-term benefit of Vermont consumers.

A nine-member Board directs final funding decisions. The Department of Public Service (DPS) administers the CEDF on behalf of the Board.

Application Process

1. RFPs will be issued in mid-January and mid-July in 2009. Contact DPS for application instructions or download them from www.publicservice.vermont.gov/energy/ee_cleanenergyfund.html
2. Applications are due twice a year: February 27 and August 14 in 2009
3. Board reviews proposals in March and September in 2009
4. Grant awards are announced in April and October in 2009
5. Grant agreements will be made after grantees supply the DPS with requested information

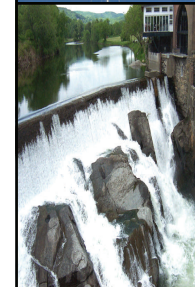
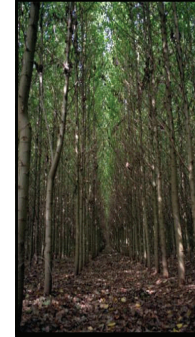
The typical review period will be 30 days for **complete** applications. If applications are incomplete or unforeseen circumstances arise, the review period could be longer.

For more information, contact:

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CEDF Manager

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Vermont Clean Energy Development Fund (CEDF)

Grant Program

Vermont Department of Public Service (DPS)

112 State Street
Montpelier, VT 05620-2601

(802) 828-2811 or
(800) 642-3281



Eligible Projects

The grant program will fund a wide variety of clean energy technologies.

The CEDF will make grants to individuals and organizations for projects that meet the Fund's objectives and advance the overall goals of the Fund as more specifically set forth in 10 V.S.A. §6523 and the CEDF Strategic Plan (which is available on the DPS website).

Grid-connected projects must generate electricity in order to be considered. Projects must be over 15 kW (electric) or 1 million Btus/hour (thermal) or 15 tons of capacity (geothermal) in size unless they are applying under the Small-Scale Systems category.

If you are interested in a project that is under 15 kW in size, please visit the Renewable Energy Resource Center (www.nerc-vt.org or 877-888-7372) to learn about the Vermont Small-Scale Renewable Energy Incentive Program.

NOTE: in 2009, special funding is available for municipalities to explore renewable energy projects. Grants of up to \$5,000 for feasibility studies are available to Vermont municipalities, public schools, and colleges for feasibility studies. Applications are available at http://publicservice.vermont.gov/energy/ee_cleanenergyfund.html or by contacting Anne Margolis at (802) 828-4017 or anne.margolis@state.vt.us.

Eligible Applicants

Individuals, sole proprietorships, partnerships, limited liability companies, corporations, non-profit corporations, Subchapter S corporations, municipalities, and foreign corporations with Vermont subsidiaries/affiliates are eligible for funding.

Project Evaluation Criteria

The CEDF Board and Fund Manager will evaluate all proposals received based upon qualifications of the individuals proposed to perform the work, relevance of previous experience, completeness and quality of the proposal, how well the project meets the goals of the CEDF, reasonableness of cost, and any other criteria they deem relevant. Acceptance or rejection of any or all proposals will be determined by the exercise of the Board's or the Fund Manager's sole discretion. Specific evaluation criteria include:

Experience and Qualifications

Applicant's knowledge and experience in the relevant project area; adequate staffing; previous experience with state or federal grants/contracts.

Work Plan

Clarity and reasonableness of work plan; timeframe relative to similar projects; viability and strength of strategy to implement project; project control and financial management plan.

Project Characteristics

Suitability of project site; project risk similar to proposed projects; potential for replicability; potential for public visibility; energy generated and cost/energy generated.

Environmental, Economic, and Societal Impact

How much the project will contribute to a reduction in fossil fuel use and other greenhouse gas and other air pollutants; the extent of additional economic value created by a project, including job creation; benefits to society including the amount the project will contribute to an increase in renewable energy generation or CHP capacity available to ratepayers.

Budget

Description and justification for each line item; costs are reasonable and competitive; degree of financial leverage; justification of need for financial assistance.

Use of Funds*

Pre-Project Financial Assistance

This category includes renewable energy resource assessments; site assessments; environmental impact and regulatory analysis; technical and engineering feasibility studies; engineering designs; and economic and financial studies.
Required Applicant Match: 20% cash up to \$25,000 request; 50% match \$25,000-\$100,000 request
Maximum Grant Award: \$100,000
Grant Term: 1 year

Small-Scale Systems

This category includes projects under 15 kW such as micro-turbines, fuel cells, geothermal systems, wood boilers, and CHP at residential or small commercial buildings (no residential biomass). Solar electric, solar hot water, wind, and hydro systems are not eligible as funding is available through the Vermont Small-Scale Renewable Energy Incentive program.

Required Applicant Cash Match: 75%, no more than 25% of which may be in-kind match
Maximum Grant Award: \$50,000
Grant Term: 2 years

Large-Scale Systems

This category includes renewable energy projects greater than 15 kW, 1 million Btu/hour, or 15 tons of refrigeration in capacity such as solar; farm, landfill and sewer methane recovery; biomass power; geothermal; and wind.

Required Applicant Cash Match: 50%, no more than 25% of which may be in-kind match
Maximum Grant Award: \$250,000 or \$500,000 for **Community-Scale Systems** over 250 kW, 8 million Btus/hour, or 250 tons of refrigeration in capacity.
Grant Term: 2 years

Special Demonstration Projects

This category includes projects that demonstrate and facilitate the development and commercialization of innovative renewable energy products, technologies, technology applications, and processes.

Required Applicant Cash Match: 50%, no more than 25% of which may be in-kind match
Maximum Grant Award: \$250,000
Grant Term: 2 years

*Invoices will not be reimbursed until a project has received a Certificate of Public Good, or for other projects, a similar milestone is met.