Community Energy Models and Resources - DRAFT

Public/Private Partnerships

Community Energy Partnership

Status

In place program

Location

Southern California

Website

http://www.sce.com/NR/rdonlyres/DA8FAE53-B482-4AEE-B3AA-04F4ED554941/0/SCE2524COMMUNITYENERGYPARTNERSHIPPROGRAMRESOURCE.pdf

Primary Focus

Interlocal thought leadership, public awareness education, coordinated government-business-academic conservation and efficiency programs.

Self Description

The Community Energy Partnership is a hybrid and multidimensional partnership for the delivery of sustainable energy efficiency in Southern California. For seven years, The Energy Coalition has facilitated the development of an extensive program model for engaging communities in responsible energy use, raising their awareness about energy efficiency, the importance of peak demand reductions, and even renewable energy. It is a program model that draws upon the strengths of key energy stakeholders in each city, to create a powerful synergy.

Partner Cities

Irvine Corona Santa Monica San Bernardino Moreno Valley Cathedral City Palm Desert Hermosa Beach Brea Santa Clarita

Partner Utilities

Southern California Edison Southern California Gas

Facilitating Partner

The Energy Coalition http://www.energycoalition.org/

Financing Resources and Models

National Renewable Energy Laboratory

Status

In place

Website

http://www.nrel.gov/docs/fy08osti/42919.pdf

Primary Focus

Information, links and tools related to financing and development of community wind energy

Description

Technical Report, NREL/TP-670-42919, February 2008

Provides information as of February 2008 on in place financing programs and programs in development. Extensive information on corporate financing resources. Most information on corporate financing resources needs revalidation as a result of the recent economic downturn.

WE Energies

Status

In place

Website

http://www.weenergies.com/business_new/altenergy/existbu srpt.pdf

Primary Focus

Comprehensive information on business models for community energy. Includes a detailed section on community wind financing models

Description

General report on new business models for customer owned renewable energy generation. The report includes a section on utility-scale community wind models, including

- 1. The two most commonly-employed, the multiple local owner model and the flip model
- 2. The consumer cooperative model that has been deployed successfully in Europe but which faces substantial implementation challenges in the United States
- 3. The public ownership model that has been successfully employed for behind-the-meter projects but which faces substantial implementation challenges when power is sold to third parties.

Northwest Community Energy

Status

Financing and development information on Community Energy portal.

Website

http://www.nwcommunityenergy.org/wind/financing-development-models

Primary Focus

Information, links and tools related to financing and development of community wind energy

Self Description

While the range of possible ownership and financing structures is wide, the decision of which to use rests on relatively few considerations. We have targeted this website to community wind projects, therefore, our discussion focuses on those possible ownership and financing options that appeared to be the best fit for this type of project at the time this website was developed.

Our primary focus will be on either multiple-owner models that are shaped to take advantage of the Federal Production Tax Credit and the Modified Accelerated Cost Recovery System (MACRS) of Accelerated Depreciation, or public ownership models that can use tax-exempt financing such as the new Clean Renewable Energy Bonds (CREBs).

John Deere Credit Corporation

Status

In place corporate lending program

Website

http://www.deere.com/en_US/jdc/product_financing/wind_energy/index.html

Primary Focus

Corporate financing for renewable energy investments

Self Description

For wind energy developers who need a flexible, trusted project resource for the long term, John Deere *Wind Energy* provides the foundation for a successful project through the following:

- Comprehensive project management services, including a streamlined project approval process, advice, and technical support from planning to engineering to construction
- Complete project finance programs, including debt & equity
- Specialized experience in energy project development, wind energy technology and financial services
- Knowledge and commitment to rural economic growth
- Unparalleled reputation for financial strength, integrity and stability
- Relationships with global wind turbine suppliers

Clean Renewable Energy Bonds (CREBs)

Status

Extended to December 31, 2009

Website

http://apps1.eere.energy.gov/state_energy_program /feature_detail_info.cfm/start=3/fid=82#illustration 2

Primary Focus

Public financing for renewable energy investments

Description

Created by the 2005 Federal Energy Policy Act, CREBs finance the development of renewable energy projects. CREBs are similar to "tax credit bonds" for school construction under the Qualified Zone Academy Bond (QZAB) program. Qualified issuers include local governmental bodies (including municipal utilities), tribal governments, and mutual or cooperative electric companies. CREBs provide issuers with interest-free loans to finance qualified energy projects. CREBs do not require corporate contribution and do not limit who can invest in the securities. The bonds must be issued by December 31, 2009, but proceeds can be spent later. Bonds have anticipated terms of about fifteen years, periodically adjusted by the U.S. Treasury along with the amount of the credit that can be claimed against bondholders' federal taxes.

The federal government pays a tax credit to the CREB bondholder in lieu of the issuer paying interest to the bondholder. The U.S. Treasury Department sets the credit rate on a daily basis, in an amount that permits issuance of tax credit bonds without discount and without interest cost to the issuer. Bondholders can deduct tax credits from their total income tax liability. Bonds are taxable. If the credit is worth \$1,000 and the bondholder is in the 35% tax bracket, the bondholder's tax liability would be reduced \$650.