

Triennial Plan II: Straw Proposal Renewable Resource Programs

**Stakeholder Input Meeting
July 24th 2012**



Renewable Resource Programs

■ Opportunity

- Promotion and financing of renewable energy projects
- Continued support of developing trade group
- 500,000 homes in Maine
- Cost – effective installations
- New program incentives and guidelines launched April 2012
- Hundreds of installations each year

Renewable Resource Programs

- **Solar /Wind Program** (sunset Dec 2010)
 - Established 2005
 - Incentive level changes
 - Gaps in funding and incentive availability
 - Legislative renewals required
 - Establishment of Maine Solar Thermal Certification program
 - Required NABCEP “full” certified installer for PV
 - Provided \$500 to \$700K worth of incentives per year.



Renewable Resource Programs

■ Market Barriers & Challenges

- Lack of capital/financing, up front cost, awareness of benefits of renewables, contractor concerns.

■ Program Results

\$700K in ARRA SEP funds utilized in calendar 2011

- Funds Solar SBC suspended in Dec 2010
- Legislative changes to Renewable Resource Fund 2011
- Rule making Fall 2011 regarding Renewable resource Fund
- New incentive and certification structure launched 2012
- Legislative change to 'Renewable Resource and Energy Efficiency Fund 2012.
- New rule making process anticipated Fall 2012.



Renewable Resource Programs

■ Program Budget/Revenue

- Alternative Compliance Payments ~\$10,000
- Voluntary contribution on utility billing ~ \$100,000
- Remaining “Solar/Wind Law” SBC Funds

- ARRA fund availability to end of calendar 2012
- \$700K remaining SBC funds (~ calendar year end 2013)
- \$100K per year available for RFP community energy/R&D grants



Renewable Resource Programs

- **Metrics**

- Energy savings by unit, by program-year, by TriPlan period
- Money savings by unit, by program-year, by TriPlan period
- TRC B/C Ratio: .35

- 2011 rule making established “Simple Payback for end user in 20 year period” as cost-effectiveness test for renewables.



Renewable Resource Programs

■ Staff Recommendation

- Continue incentive program and certification platform as launched in April 2012:
 - Seek additional grant and revenue opportunities
 - Continue to provide long term financing to support additional business activity.
 - Prepare industry for future incentive funding levels and demonstration of savings and environmental benefits as key drivers of demand.
 - Demonstrate effectiveness of lower incentive levels to promote best practices and engage homeowners.

Renewable Resource Programs

■ Input and Stakeholder Recommendations

- Program delivery mix – incentives, grants, policy recommendations
- Technologies incentivized
- Sources of revenue
- Financing program insights
- Workforce development
- Other

Please Share Your Ideas:

Send Written Comments to:

Email – efficiencymaine@efficiencymaine.com

Post – **Triennial Plan Comments**
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Latest that comments will be considered is August 15.