

# Utah Renewable Energy Rebate Program

## Utah Solar Energy Association Renewable Energy Conference

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State  
Energy  
Program  
UTAH GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

# The INCENTIVES Landscape

Innovation and expansion of the energy economy:

- energy production
- energy efficiency
- energy diversification

Federal, State, Local governments

Utilities

Nonprofits & Foundations

Tax credits, rebates, net metering

# ARRA

- American Recovery & Reinvestment Act
  - Create new jobs and save existing ones
  - Spur economic activity and invest in long-term growth
  - Foster unprecedented levels of accountability and transparency in government spending

# State Energy Program ARRA Formula Grant

Department of Energy State Energy Program  
Formula Grant Funding: \$2.3 Billion

Utah Formula grant = \$35.5 million

- Received in May, 2009
- 43.1% committed to projects and contracts

[http://geology.utah.gov/sep/stimulus/sep\\_formula.htm](http://geology.utah.gov/sep/stimulus/sep_formula.htm)

# Utah SEP Formula Grant

USEP ARRA formula grant is supporting  
21 energy focused programs

- Education
- Efficiency in buildings
- Policy, planning, energy security
- Transportation
- Renewable energy

# SEP ARRA Formula Grant Renewable Energy Programs

State buildings

Public schools & institutions

Resource assessment

Residential/commercial rebates

# Consumer Tier Incentives

Federal investment tax credit, 30%

State investment tax credit, 25% - \$2,000

Utility rebate programs

Grants

Renewable energy rebate

# Tax credit vs. Rebate

## Tax credit

- Reduces income tax obligation
- Using tax policy to achieve other ends
- Popular stimulus programs evolve this way
- Requires an up front investment

## Rebates

- Cash payments
- Require pre-funding
- Require an up front investment

# Rebate Program Design

Industry & licensing standards

- UL, SRCC, California Solar Initiative, DOPL

Other incentive programs

- State rebate & tax credit, RMP Solar Incentive

Federal Law

- SHPO, NEPA, Davis-Bacon, Buy American

USEP Objectives

- safety, performance, sustainable growth

Efficient, effective, equitable

# Efficient, Effective, Equitable

## Efficient

- Limit incentives to 60% of system cost
- Use precedents where possible
- Low administrative cost

## Effective

- Performance, reliability, safety
- Follows the law

## Equitable

- Equally accessible

# Renewable Energy Rebate Program

Application process

System requirements

Rebate details

# Rebate Details

\* eligible & reasonable cost  
 \*\* per Solar Research Certification Corp.

	Sector	Rebate	Maximum Rebate	Min	Max
Solar PV	Residential	\$2/Watt	lesser of 25% or \$8750	900W	25kW
	Commercial/Nonprofit	\$2/Watt	lesser of 25% or \$50,000	5kW	100kW
Solar Thermal	Residential	\$30/sqft net aperture**	lesser of 25% or \$2,500	None	None
	Commercial/Nonprofit	\$30/sqft net aperture**	lesser of 25% or \$10,000	None	None
Wind	Residential	\$1.50/Watt	lesser of 25% or \$5,000	1kW	5kW
	Commercial/Nonprofit	\$1.50/Watt	lesser of 25% or \$5,000	1kW	5kW

# Application Process

## 1. Reserve rebate funds

Install of the system

## 2. Apply for the reserved rebate

Participate in post-program surveys

# Rebate Reservation Package Required Documentation

- ✓ Reservation form (signed by applicant, installer)
- ✓ System description form (installer can assist)
- ✓ End user agreement
- ✓ Itemized bid or contract & line diagram
- ✓ Solar shading analysis (SunEye, Solar Pathfinder, or equal)
- ✓ Site Diagram

USEP recommends the applicant and installer complete the application together

# Rebate Application Required Documentation

- Rebate application form
  - Including inspection signatures
- Photographs as installed
- Utility interconnection agreement

# Program Rules

- Professional installation
- Applications for completed systems must be submitted within 9 months
- Primary residences only
- Special application process for properties with structures 50+ years old
- Applications and bids must be dated on or after the program start date

# System Requirements

Design requirements will closely follow (but may vary) those established for the Utah Tax Credit, UAC Rule R638-2:

- Components
- Orientation / Axis
- Certification
- Eligible and reasonable costs

<http://www.rules.utah.gov/publicat/code/r638/r638-002.html>

# Program Launch

April 2010

Launch Information:

- Listserv
- Press release
- USEP website

Finalizing

- Rules
- Forms

# Sources and Information

- USEP listserv: [renewablerebate@utah.gov](mailto:renewablerebate@utah.gov)
- Solar Research Certification Corporation: <http://www.solar-rating.org/RATINGS/RATINGS.HTM>
- Go Solar California (approved products list):  
<http://www.gosolarcalifornia.org/equipment/index.html>
- Utah State Energy Program, Renewable Rebate:  
[http://geology.utah.gov/sep/stimulus/sep\\_formula/renew\\_energy\\_rebate.htm](http://geology.utah.gov/sep/stimulus/sep_formula/renew_energy_rebate.htm)
- Utah Renewable Energy Tax Credit Rules:  
<http://www.rules.utah.gov/publicat/code/r638/r638-002.htm>
- Database of State Incentives for Renewable Energy (DSIRE):  
<http://www.dsireusa.org/solar/>
- Solar Pathfinder: <http://www.solarpathfinder.com/PF?id=K5uAVUNe>
- SunEye: <http://www.solmetric.com/>