



Office of Economic Development and Competitiveness

Supporting Clean Energy Research in Washington State



In his Executive Order 14-04 on Washington Carbon Pollution Reduction and Clean Energy Action, Governor Jay Inslee directed the **Washington Department of Commerce** to make recommendations for a new state program to support clean energy research, development, demonstration and deployment in Washington.

To accomplish this goal, the State Energy Office examined the current Clean Energy Funds administered by Commerce, and recommended actions that will build on the success of those funds while expanding the pool of eligible applicants to include Washington public and private research institutions, electricity and natural gas utilities, energy companies, clean energy associations and other private-sector entities.

Clean Energy Fund focus areas moving forward

1. Revolving Loan Fund to **support the widespread use of proven energy efficiency and renewable energy technologies** now inhibited by lack of access to capital. These include residential, commercial, industrial, and agricultural energy retrofits, residential and community-scale solar installations, anaerobic digesters to treat dairy and organic waste, and combined heat and power projects using woody biomass as a fuel source.
2. Provide **credit enhancements for advanced solar and renewable energy manufacturing** within Washington.
3. Grants to **advance clean and renewable energy technologies and transmission and distribution control system improvements** to increase reliability, resiliency and enable integration of distributed and renewable resources and technology. Projects may integrate intermittent renewables through energy storage, information technology or other smart grid technologies, dispatch energy storage resources from utility control rooms, use demand response, transactive control, or the thermal properties and electric load of commercial buildings and district energy systems to store energy, reduce transmission congestion or otherwise improve system reliability and resiliency and enable integration of distributed and renewable energy sources.
4. Grants to match **federal funds or other non-state funding** sources used to research, develop, and demonstrate clean energy technologies.

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Our Mission

Grow and improve jobs in Washington State by championing thriving communities, a prosperous economy, and sustainable infrastructure.



Highlights from the 2013-2015 Clean Energy Fund

- 1. Energy Revolving Loan Fund** (\$15 million) – Finance use of proven building energy efficiency and renewable energy technologies that currently lack access to capital, generating opportunities within the residential and commercial sectors.
- 2. Smart Grid Grants to Utilities** (\$15 million) – Demonstrate improved integration of renewables through energy storage and information technology, improve reliability, and reduce the costs of intermittent renewable or distributed energy.
- 3. Federal Grant Matching Funds** (\$6 million) – Open to Washington research institutions, eligible projects develop or demonstrate clean energy technologies that have been demonstrated as viable in prior published work, yet are not commercially available.

Benefits from the Clean Energy Fund:

- The state's overall \$40 million investment in the Clean Energy Fund is expected to leverage more than \$200 million in matching funds from industry partners
- Those investments are making buildings more energy efficient, manufacturing smart grid equipment, and adding a capacity to the state's electric grid
- New smart-grid technologies, developed and deployed in Washington, are now positioned to sell into rapidly growing global markets