



2009 Federal Highway Administrations

Judges' Award for Special Recognition: The Oregon Solar Highway Initiative

The Oregon Solar Highway Initiative

Agencies Awarded:

Governor of Oregon

Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT)

Portland General Electric

Project Contributors:

Governor of Oregon

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The Oregon Solar Highway Initiative is a partnership with the private sector that utilizes State and Federal tax credits, depreciation, and utility incentives to finance renewable energy projects located in the highway operating right of way. The first project under the Initiative is a 594-panel, 104-kilowatt, ground-mounted solar array located inside the interchange of Interstate 5 (a Federally designated Corridor of the Future) and Interstate 205 in Tualatin, Oregon. ODOT seeks to demonstrate that solar arrays will complement and not compromise the transportation system, and that they can thus be deployed on highways throughout the nation. The Oregon Solar Highway Initiative reflects the innovation and spirit of partnership that are necessary to develop entrepreneurial and sustainable ways of addressing the nation's transportation and energy needs.

