



Oregon

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Government to Government Report Oregon Department of Energy—2012 Summary

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The mission of the Oregon Department of Energy (ODOE) is to ensure Oregon has an adequate supply of reliable and affordable energy and is safe from nuclear contamination, by helping Oregonians save energy, develop clean energy resources, promote renewable energy, and clean up nuclear waste.

Ongoing Efforts

Energy Infrastructure Siting

The Oregon Department of Energy, as staff to the Energy Facility Siting Council, works with tribes regarding the proposed siting of new energy facilities and pipelines. Some of the proposals include wind farms, natural gas-fired power plants and electric transmission lines.

The Boardman to Hemingway transmission line is being proposed by Idaho Power and the Cascade Crossing transmission line by PGE. The projects involve state, federal and tribal governments. The ODOE siting officers reviewing the projects have been attending meetings of state and federal cultural resource experts to determine a common basis of information, how the information feeds into the EFSC process and keeping the cultural information confidential.

For other proposed energy projects, the Oregon Department of Energy has received Notices of Intent from:

- Heppner Wind in Morrow and Umatilla counties. This proposed 500 MW wind energy facility from Invenergy would consist of 335 turbines on 61,000 acres. A 39-to-46 mile long 230 kV transmission line would also be included. ODOE issued a project Order on September 10, 2012.
- The Perennial Wind Chaser Station in Hermiston. This is a planned 400 MW natural gas facility proposed by Perennial Power Holdings, LLC. It would consist of up to four natural gas-fired turbines on 20 acres. Umatilla Electric has identified two new routes for the transmission line for this facility.

- Rock Creek Wind Facility in Gilliam County. The EFSC has approved an extension of the NOI expiration date to August 23, 2013. Rock Creek is a 550 MW wind generation facility proposed by Rock Creek Wind Power LLC.
- South Dunes is a gas-fired thermal combustion plant planned for Coos County. Jordan Cove Energy would use this facility to provide power to the proposed Jordan Cove LNG export facility. The applicant filed an NOI on August 1, 2012, and a public information meeting was held on September 11, 2012 in North Bend. A supplement to the public notice of the NOI, issued on October 4, extended the public comment deadline to October 18 and provided additional information about participating in the local land use process.

Protecting the Columbia River

The Hanford Site in southeastern Washington State used to produce plutonium for nuclear weapons. The production process resulted in large amounts of chemical and radioactive waste. These wastes pose a long-term threat to the Columbia River. The Oregon Department of Energy (ODOE) is responsible for the technical review of the Hanford cleanup and assessment of potential impacts on the Columbia River and Oregon.

The State of Oregon continues to work closely with the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation (CTUIR) regarding Hanford policy and technical issues. This is done under a Memorandum of Understanding coordinating efforts related to the Columbia River, groundwater protection, radioactive material transport, public information and emergency preparedness. The CTUIR is also represented on the Hanford Cleanup Board.

ODOE staff consults and coordinates with CTUIR staff regularly on Hanford technical and policy issues. ODOE also works with the CTUIR as a member of the Hanford Natural Resource Trustee Council.

Agency Participation

The agency attends the Natural Resource Working Group meetings, the Government-to-Government Summits and Tribal Information Day at the Capitol.

Working on Innovation

The State Energy Loan Program (SELP) is working with the Coquille Economic Development Corporation, the business arm of the Coquille Indian Tribe, on a loan application. The requested financing would be for Perpetua Power, a company that manufactures Perpetua's Power Pucks. The devices harvest energy from common temperature differences found on steam pipes, and waste heat from pumps, motors, fans, and other industrial equipment to provide power and eliminate battery replacements.

American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) funds that ODOE provided to ODOT for the Electric Highway, led to electric vehicle charging stations being installed at the Cow Creek's Seven Feathers Truck and Travel Center. ODOE is also working with ODOT on a similar charging station set-up for the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde.