Oregon state law (ORS 279C.527-528) requires public bodies that construct a new building or complete major renovations with a total contract price greater than $5 million spend at least 1.5% of total contract price on green energy technology or an eligible alternative.

Oregon Department of Energy staff are happy to help public bodies understand and comply with the 1.5% for Green Energy Technology requirement. ODOE’s role is to maintain the Oregon Administrative Rules for the 1.5% Green Energy Technology requirement, track the reporting requirements from public bodies, and complete an annual report to the Oregon Legislature.

For questions about the Technical Review Panel and requirements, contact: askenergy@oregon.gov.

Visit our website for complete program instructions and information at: www.oregon.gov/energy/energy-oregon/Pages/GET.aspx

Leading Oregon to a safe, equitable, clean, and sustainable energy future.

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Who is subject to the 1.5% requirement?
All public bodies in Oregon are subject. This includes:
• State agencies
• Cities and counties
• Local service districts
• School or education service districts
• Community college districts
• Public corporations created by state statute
• Other public bodies

Members of the Oregon University System are exempt.

Which buildings are subject?
• New public buildings with total contract price exceeding $5 million.
• Existing public buildings with total contract price costs exceeding $5 million and 50% of the insured value of the building.
• Required buildings must be owned or controlled by a public body, and must be used for conducting public business or occupied by public employees.
Green energy technologies that comply with the 1.5% requirement include:

- Solar technology, in the form of photovoltaic and solar thermal systems.
- Passive solar and daylighting systems that reduce whole building energy use by 10% or more.
- Geothermal systems that provide heating or make electricity. Ground source heat pumps do not meet the requirement.
- Battery storage equipment and technology paired with solar or geothermal systems that generate electricity.

Alternatively, public bodies may install woody biomass energy technology, and other energy efficiency technology which includes:

- A space or water heating system that uses material from trees and woody plants that are a by-product of forest management, agriculture, ecosystem restoration, or fire prevention and related activities.
- Certain on-site energy efficiency improvements that reduce or offset energy consumption by 20 percent below baseline code.

The energy produced from these systems must be used at the building site. Building owners cannot purchase “green power” from a utility to meet this requirement.

What if green energy technology or an eligible alternative doesn’t make sense for a new or renovated public building?

If the technologies don’t work at the building site, state law allows public bodies to install a green energy system at an alternate location – as long as it is more cost-effective and the energy produced is still used at the building site.

If a public body decides to install technology at an alternate site or determines that the technology is inappropriate both onsite and offsite, it must document the reason and request a review by the Technical Review Panel.

If a public body determines that the technology or an alternative is inappropriate and any state funding is used, the public body must spend the equivalent amount on a future project in addition to any 1.5% requirement for that project.

What is the Technical Review Panel?
The review panel includes a professional engineer or architect, a member of a public body, an industry expert, and is chaired by the Oregon Department of Energy.

What are the reporting requirements?
Public bodies must report their energy project information to the Oregon Department of Energy, and submit details about their project using our online form: 
[greenenergytechnology.odoe.state.or.us](http://greenenergytechnology.odoe.state.or.us)

Note: Public bodies must report to ODOE regardless of whether they comply with the 1.5% requirement, install the technology at an alternate site, or determine it to be inappropriate both onsite and offsite.

Questions?
Give us a call at (503) 378-4040
[www.oregon.gov/energy](http://www.oregon.gov/energy)