



Special Notice

WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE

AUGUST 30, 2011

Solar Stirling Converter Manufactured in Washington Added to Renewable Energy Cost Recovery Incentive Payment Program

Summary

Solar Stirling converters manufactured in Washington now qualify for additional incentive payments under the Renewable Energy Cost Recovery Incentive Payment Program. The change was effective July 22, 2011. (RCW 82.16.110 and 82.16.120 as amended by Senate Bill 5526, Chapter 179, Laws of 2011)

Program Description

This program allows qualifying participants to receive payments from their light and power utility for electricity generated by the participant's renewable energy system. These annual payments are based on the kilowatt-hours of electricity produced. Additional amounts are paid if the system includes certain equipment manufactured in Washington.

Participants can not be in the light and power or gas distribution business. Qualifying participants include:

- Individuals
- Businesses
- Local government entities
- Community solar projects

The renewable energy system may be solar, wind, or certain anaerobic digesters.

Qualified made in Washington components

Higher annual incentives are paid for solar and wind energy systems that contain one or more of the following devices manufactured in Washington:

- a solar inverter
- a solar module
- a solar Stirling converter
- a wind generator powered by blades
- a wind generator equipped with an inverter

For the purposes of this program, a device is considered "manufactured in Washington" if the manufacturer requests and receives written approval of certification from the Department of Revenue stating the device was manufactured in Washington. For more information, see WAC 458-20-273.

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**Solar Stirling
converter
incentive rates**

The base rate for the production of “customer-generated electricity” is \$0.15 per kilowatt-hour (kWh). The bill amends the laws to provide applicants who have a solar Stirling converter in their solar system with an incentive payment of 2.4 times the base rate. The payment would be \$0.36/kWh for customer-generated electricity produced using a solar system that contains a Stirling converter manufactured in Washington State.

For community solar projects the base rate is \$0.30. Projects that use solar Stirling converters manufactured in Washington in their solar system can receive \$0.72/kWh (\$0.30 times 2.4 factor).

**Limits on
incentive
payments**

No individual, household, business, or local governmental entity is eligible for incentive payments of more than five thousand dollars per year. This limit applies to all projects or systems one may be involved in as an owner or a participant in a community solar project.

No incentive payments will be made for kilowatt-hours generated after June 30, 2020.

Definitions

“Solar Stirling converter” means a device that produces electricity by converting heat from a solar source utilizing a Stirling engine.

“Customer-generated electricity” means the alternating current electricity that is generated from a renewable energy system located in Washington state, that is installed on an individual’s, businesses’, local government’s or utility’s real property and the real property involved is served by a light and power business.

**For more
Information**

For more information on this program, see Washington Administrative Code (WAC) 458-20-273.

You may also visit our Tax Incentives page online at <http://dor.wa.gov>. From the home page select “Tax incentive programs. You can also call our Telephone Information Center at 1-800-647-7706.