

Senate Bill 5101: Klickitat PUD's First Year in the Program

In May 2005, Governor Christine Gregoire signed Washington State Senate Bill (SB) 5101. Washington's production incentives program is the first metered production program in the United States.

The program started July 1, 2005, and will run until June 30, 2014.

SB 5101 provides incentives for small scale solar, wind and biomass power electricity generating systems in Washington. The overall incentive amount may be uniformly reduced if requests for the incentives exceed available funds.

Participating utilities receive a tax credit for production incentives, passing them along to customers.

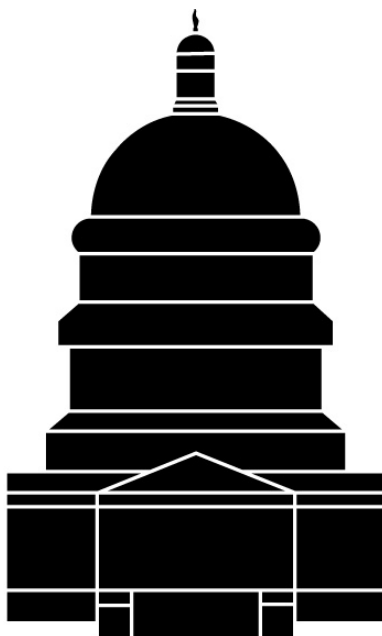
SB5101 allows payments up to \$2,000 a year for generation, depending on the type of technology and where the equipment was manufactured.

Washington residents can receive 15 cents per kilowatt-hour (kWh) for solar-generated power and even higher payouts for using Washington-built inverters and modules. No solar modules are now manufactured in the state of Washington.

Multiplying the incentive along with the factors will determine the amount paid to the customer for that fiscal year, defined as July 1, 2006 to June 30, 2007.

Customers who install generation to offset their PUD bill are required to sign an "Interconnection Agreement for Net Energy Metering" contract.

Net metering measures the difference between the electricity supplied by your utility and the electricity generated by a customer-generator that is fed back to the



electric utility over the applicable billing period.

In August 2006, The Energy Services Department at Klickitat PUD mailed letters to all of our net metering customers, notifying them they may be eligible to participate in the Washington State Tax Incentives for Renewable Energy Systems program.

The program was received well. Eleven net metering customers out of 17 chose to participate. The incentives ranged from \$157.20 to \$2,000, with most customers quali-

fying within Factor 1.0, paying 15 cents per kWh.

A total of \$9,580.98 was paid out in incentives to customers for their generation through Klickitat PUD in 2006.

In the state, more than 220 systems—all photovoltaic (PV) installations ranging in capacity from 2 to 2.5 kilowatts—have qualified for the new incentive program since its implementation. Since Klickitat PUD accounts for 11, our overall participation is at 5 percent.

The renewable energy production statutes do not require utilities to participate and is left to their discretion.

Klickitat PUD is proud to participate in SB5101, by offering this incentive to its electricity generating systems customers.

If you are thinking of installing solar generation, KPUD is offering \$400 per kilowatt up to three kilowatts for a maximum rebate of \$1,200 for your new system.

Call KPUD's Energy Services Department for rebate information and a net metering contract.

Customers who have their own generation are encouraged to apply to the state of Washington so they may participate in this fiscal year's incentive: July 1, 2006 to June 30, 2007.

The program will be in effect for seven more years to give homes and business owners the opportunity to invest in their own clean energy production.

Applications are available at Klickitat PUD, or you may find them online at www.dor.wa.gov.

Call Energy Services for more information at (509) 773-7622 or (800) 548-8357, extension 622. ■



Klickitat PUD
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