

## **A Synopsis of the WA State Renewable Energy Incentive law (SSB 5101)**

The program begins July 1, 2005, and ends June 30, 2014.

Both grid tied systems, and off grid systems in use at a location that also has grid power, qualify. For example, if you have a grid connected home that also has an RE system that is not grid tied but supplies part of your power, your RE system qualifies.

To qualify for incentive payments, a RE system owner first submits an application for certification to the WA Department of Revenue on a form specified by the WA Department of Revenue.

The Dept. of Revenue forwards the form to the Washington State University Climate and Rural Energy Development Center to certify that your system qualifies for a certain level of incentive. Expect a phone call to get specifics about the make and model of your system components, and the kWh reading on the meter on July 1.

To collect incentive payments, a RE system owner applies, by August 1st of each year, to the electrical utility serving their area. The application must include:

- the name and address of the owner
- the location of the RE system.
- tax registration number (UBI number)
- date of the letter from the Dept of Revenue certifying that the system is eligible for incentives.
- kilowatt hours (kWhs) generated in the prior fiscal year (July 1 to June 30.)

The RE system owner must retain records for 5 years.

Incentive payments are \$0.15/kWh multiplied by the applicable multiplier:

- PV modules manufactured in WA, multiply by 2.4:  $\$0.15 \times 2.4 = \$0.36/\text{kWh}$
- PV or wind inverters manufactured in WA, multiply by 1.2:  $\$0.15 \times 1.2 = \$0.18/\text{kWh}$
- other PV modules, or wind turbine blades manufactured in WA, multiply by 1 =  $\$0.15/\text{kWh}$
- other wind, multiply by 0.8:  $\$0.15 \times 0.8 = \$0.12/\text{kWh}$

These payments are additive in certain combinations. For example, a PV inverter manufactured in WA ( $\$0.18/\text{kWh}$ ) connected to PV modules manufactured in WA ( $\$0.36/\text{kWh}$ ) results in  $\$0.54/\text{kWh}$  payment.

Incentive payments may not exceed \$2,000 per year.

Environmental attributes, "Green Tags", can still be sold to others. Payments for Green Tags are currently  $\$0.10/\text{kWh}$  for PV and  $\$0.04/\text{kWh}$  for wind grid tied systems. These are in addition to the incentives above.

(R. Brooks, Brooks Solar, Inc., 4/26/07)