



Commercial Funding 2015 Block VII

Applications due on or before **August 4, 2015**

Request for Projects

RI Renewable Energy Fund

RI Commerce Corporation



PURPOSE:

The Rhode Island Commerce Corporation (Commerce RI) seeks to fund commercial scale renewable energy projects to generate electricity for onsite consumption. All projects must be in accordance with the [2014-2016 Rules and Regulations for the Renewable Energy Fund Development Programs](#). All applications for project funding should be submitted on forms found on [Commerce RI’s website](#). Applications will be accepted any time during the open solicitation period.

ELIGIBLE TECHNOLOGIES:

Those technologies consistent with [RIGL § 39-2-1.2](#).
All projects must have the ability to generate electricity.

ELIGIBLE SECTORS:

- Businesses
- Institutions
- Non-profit organizations
- Municipalities
- Multi-unit Residential Properties

PROJECT FUNDING:

Commerce RI will award grants based on the rated DC capacity of a renewable energy project. Incentive levels for this solicitation are as follows:

\$1.15/W	For the first 0-50kW
\$1.00/W	For the 2 nd 50kW (up to 100kW)
\$0.85/W	For the 3 rd 50kW (up to 150 kW)
\$0.70/W	For the 4 th 50kW (up to 200 kW)
\$0.55/W	For the 5 th 50kW (up to 250 kW)
\$0.40/W	For all installed capacity over the first 250 kW
Incentives are capped at \$350,000 for a single project	



GENERAL REQUIREMENTS:

1. **Energy Audit:** Project site owners must have conducted an energy audit prior to application submittal. Proof must be included with application. If new construction or a major renovation causes the energy audit to be unavailable or inaccurate, please submit a detailed prediction of onsite electricity demand. This “energy use model” should include a list of all major equipment to be installed and associated estimates of electrical consumption.
2. **A signed turnkey contract** between the project site owner and a renewable energy installer or developer must be included with the application. The contract should be contingent upon receiving funding from Commerce RI’s Renewable Energy Fund.
3. A copy of the Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) contract if entering into a PPA.
4. One-line or three-line **electrical drawing** must be included with application.
5. **ROI/simple payback** using the following assumptions must be included with application:
 - a. No more than a 3% utility inflation rate
 - b. No less than a 0.5% panel degradation rate
6. Proof of project funds must be provided to verify that the project will be constructed upon REF grant application approval.
7. A complete copy of the project location’s **electric bill**. If new construction, please submit a copy of the “request for service” from National Grid.
8. Evidence that a revenue grade meter is installed at the project.
9. **A layout drawing** of the project showing location of all major components.
10. **One (1) aerial image** of the site from Microsoft Virtual Earth, Google Earth, or similar source with the building or site clearly identified
11. A minimum **3 year workmanship** warranty on labor associated with the installation.
12. **Final Inspection:** Commerce RI reserves the right to inspect all projects before final funding is released.
13. Projects must be completed within **eighteen (18) months** of contract signing.



ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS SPECIFIC TO SOLAR PROJECTS:

14. **Shade analysis or diagram** which clearly illustrates that shading has been mitigated through system layout design. No more than 10% shading between the hours of 9:00AM and 3:00PM for traditional equipment. If using optimizers or micro-inverters, please submit detailed equipment output information.
15. **System Output:** An estimate of annual system output in kWh taking into account the tilt, orientation, and shading of the system must be submitted. This can be submitted in PVWatts, PVSYS, or other similar program.
16. **Layout drawing** of the project which shows location of all major equipment and possible roof obstructions
17. **Manufacturer’s specifications** for panels to be installed
18. **Manufacturer’s specifications** for inverter(s) to be installed
19. **One (1) photo** of the project location taken from the south looking northward toward the building or site

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS SPECIFIC TO WIND PROJECTS:

20. Copy of **FAA approval**
21. Proof that the project is permissible within jurisdictional authority (Either a letter or copy of city/town ordinance will suffice)
22. **Project location site plan/Layout Drawing** which shows location of all major equipment, laydown zone of turbine, and shadow flicker predictions
23. Manufacturer’s specifications for all major equipment.
24. **Detailed system output** forecasted for the project including an explanation of all assumptions

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS SPECIFIC TO HYDRO PROJECTS:

25. **Manufacturers specifications** for all major equipment
26. **Layout drawing** of project site which clearly label all major equipment including but not limited to the dam, intake canal, tailrace, powerhouse, sluice gate, and point of grid interconnection.
27. **Detailed system output** from the project including an explanation of all assumptions.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS FOR ALL OTHER TECHNOLOGIES:

28. Please contact REF staff at REF@commerceri.com for application requirements for eligible technologies not listed above.