Small Scale Solar Funding 2014 Block V

Applications due by April 17, 2015

Request for Projects

RI Renewable Energy Fund

RI Commerce Corporation

*A complete hard copy **and** a complete electronic copy must be submitted on or before the due date.*

Small Scale Solar Funding: Solar Photovoltaic and Solar Domestic Hot Water

Items highlighted in green indicate additions since Block IV.

PURPOSE:

The Rhode Island Commerce Corporation seeks to fund small scale solar projects. All projects must be in accordance with the 2014-2016 Rules and Regulations for the Renewable Energy Fund Development Programs. Applications may apply for a maximum of $350,000 in grant requests per Block. All applications for project funding should be submitted on forms found on the Corporation's website.

ELIGIBLE TECHNOLOGIES:

Solar Photovoltaic (PV)
Solar Domestic Hot Water (SDHW)

ELIGIBLE SECTORS:

Residential
Businesses
Affordable Housing
Non-profits

APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS:

The application process has been restructured to accommodate an increasing number of projects. Application materials are now split into three sections which allow individual projects to be submitted on a rolling basis. Individual projects may be submitted after Section I is complete and before the application deadline. The third and final section of the application is due at the application due date specified on the first page of this solicitation.

1. To open your application please submit **Section I** which includes information about your company, qualifications of personnel, and an application authorization form.
2. To submit a project or multiple projects please submit a complete **Section II** which contains all required documentation for an individual project. Section II includes a detailed project checklist with all required attachments and a site specific data form.
3. To complete an application please submit **Section III** which contains an application overview and executive summary. Section III must be submitted by the application due date.

PROJECT FUNDING:

Solar PV: Commerce RI will award grant money based on the rated DC capacity per solar project

- $1.15/W
- Maximum $10,000.00 per individual project

SDHW: Commerce RI will award grants based on the total contract price to install the system.

- 25% of total contract price
- Maximum funding level is capped at $5000.00 per housing or small business unit.

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS:

1. Each applicant may apply for a **maximum of $350,000** in total grants requested per solicitation period.
2. The applicant should be a solar contractor, 3rd party finance company, or other professional entity approved by Commerce RI.

For Each Individual Project:

1. **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. Evidence of a 3-year minimum workmanship warranty should be included in the contract.
2. **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
3. 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.
4. **A layout drawing** of the project showing location of all major components.
5. **One (1) aerial image** of the site from Microsoft Virtual Earth, Google Earth, or similar source with the building or site clearly identified
6. **One (1) photo** of the project location taken from the south looking northward toward the building or site
7. **Shade-analysis** demonstrating that the project will output at least 80% of the energy available utilizing the site's optimum conditions, taking into account shading, orientation, and inclination. This can be shown with an average **TSRF of at least 80%** when measured from the corners of an array using a Solmetric SunEye. If using a Solar Pathfinder the **Actual Shaded Solar Radiation must be at least 80%**. Please submit photos from four (4) corners of the array and the shade analysis report. Please indicate which trees in the photos have been removed/trimmed or will be removed/trimmed by the time of project completion. **NOTE:** For Solarize Tiverton/Little Compton Projects that fall under the System Reliability Plan (SRP) please refer to the "Methodology for Additional Rebate Incentive Table"
8. **Manufacturer's specifications** for panels to be installed
9. **Manufacturer's specifications** for inverter(s) to be installed
10. Manufacturer specifications for the **revenue grade meter** to be installed
11. For PV only: One-line or three-line **electrical drawing** must be included with application.
12. For SDHW only: Cross-section drawing of roof showing the size, spacing, and rafter run.
13. **Final Inspection:** Commerce RI reserves the right to inspect all projects before final funding is released.
14. **Energy Audit:** Project site owners must have an energy audit completed as a condition of final funding. Proof must be included with final check request.
15. Projects must be completed within **twelve (12) months** of contract signing.