Brownfields Solar PV Program

Request for Projects

PURPOSE:

The Rhode Island Commerce Corporation (RI Commerce) and the Rhode Island Office of Energy Resources (OER) seeks to fund solar PV on Brownfield locations. All projects must be in accordance with the Rules and Regulations for the Renewable Energy Fund Development Program. All applications for project funding should be submitted on forms found on the REF Program Website. Applications will be accepted on a first come, first serve basis until funding is exhausted.

ELIGIBLE TECHNOLOGIES:

Solar PV projects located on brownfield locations utilizing net metering or virtual net metering. Costs associated with remediation of the project location are not eligible for funding. Projects may utilize the Brownfield Revolving Loan Fund from the Rhode Island Infrastructure Bank (RIIB) and/or the Brownfield Site Preparation and Remediation Grant program from the Department of Environmental Management (DEM). Projects cannot apply for both the Commercial REF program and the Brownfield PV Program. Projects cannot utilize REF funding with the Renewable Energy Growth (REG) program administered by National Grid.

- Incentives are only available for systems that have not been installed (partially or completely) prior to REF approval of an incentive application submitted.
- The grants are funded per project (per meter, per property (building)).

ELIGIBLE SECTORS:

- Businesses
- Institutions
- Non-profits
- Municipalities
- State Facilities

PROJECT FUNDING:

Commerce RI will award grants based on the rated DC capacity of a renewable energy project. There are two different applications available. Please choose between the Direct Ownership (D.O) and Third-Party Ownership (TPO) applications. Please refer to the table below for instructions. Incentive levels for this solicitation are as follows:

Applications	
D.O	**TPO**
$1.00/W	$0.80/W
Maximum $250,000/project	Maximum $175,000/project

- *Funding level information and remaining balance is located on the REF webpage.*
- *All funding levels are subject to change.*
- *Subject to availability of funds.*
- The grants are funded per project (per meter)

For more details and updates, please refer to the REF webpage under "Grant Funding Level Information."
http://commerceri.com/finance-business/renewable-energy-fund/

QUALIFICATIONS:

QUALIFICATION INFORMATION	
Registered in Rhode Island:	Applicant/Installer registered to do business in RI (http://www.sos.ri.gov/divisions/business-portal)
Registered with the State of Rhode Island Contractors' Registration and Licensing Board	Rhode Island law requires anyone who is in the business of commercial construction, home construction, alterations, remodeling, or repair to residents to be registered with the State of Rhode Island Contractors' Registration and Licensing Board. http://www.crb.state.ri.us/ Please provide a scanned copy of the registration card.
Master Electrician License:	The Electrical Contractor's License already includes the work allowed by the REP limited license. Only contractors or individuals without an electrical license are required to obtain the REP limited license to perform ancillary non-electrical work on renewable energy systems. Please provide this information in the application.

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS:

REQUIRED ITEMS	DESCRIPTIONS
1. Application	• Fill out all fields within the Brownfield Solar PV Scale application. There are two different applications available. Please choose between the Direct Ownership (D.O) and Third-Party Ownership (TPO) applications. • Completed Application Form, including detailed project timeline with major milestones. • If project is a capped landfill – provide documentation of landfill cap from DEM. If the landfill has not yet been capped, provide documentation with the contractor information and proposed timeline. Landfill projects that do not have a clear timeline with a plan for capping the landfill are not eligible.
2. A signed turnkey contract	A signed agreement 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. (Applicable to D.O projects.) The contract must include: • A disclaimer that the Brownfields Solar PV grant is contingent upon award. • A minimum 3-year workmanship warranty. • A decommissioning plan.
3. Signed Agreement	An agreement between the project site owner/installer and the host customer must be included with the application. This could be in a form of a Power Purchasing Agreement (PPA) or a net metering agreement. The agreement should be contingent upon receiving funding from Commerce RI's Renewable Energy Fund to reflect its savings onto the host customer. (Applicable to TPO projects) The contract must include: • A disclaimer that the Brownfields Solar PV grant is contingent upon award. • A minimum 3-year workmanship warranty. • A decommissioning plan.
4. Remediation	A Brownfield project site file number on file with DEM (if known)
5. Electrical drawing	A system one-line or three-line electrical drawing
6. Layout Drawing	A drawing of the project showing location of all major components. Including evidence that a revenue grade meter is installed at the project.
7. One (1) aerial image	An image of the site from Microsoft Virtual Earth, Google Earth, or similar source with the building or site clearly identified
8. A minimum 3-year workmanship	A minimum **3-year workmanship** warranty on labor associated with the installation. Include a copy of workmanship warranty (if not included with turnkey contract) (Applicable to D.O projects)

9. W-9	A completed W-9 Form for the system owner. Form can be found here: http://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/fw9.pdf
10. For Projects 500 kW or greater:	**According to National Grid:** Prior to submitting an Interconnection Application through either the Expedited or Standard Process (see Sections 3.2 of R.I.P.U.C. 2163 Standards for Connecting Distributed Generation), all Interconnecting Customers with Facilities that are 500 kW or greater must request and receive a Pre-Application Report from the Company. **Please Provide a copy with application.** https://www9.nationalgridus.com/narragansett/business/energyeff/4_interconnection-process.asp#Pre-Application_Report_Request
11. Land Owner proof of documentation	(if applicable) Letter of intent that is binding for the use of the property, a lease agreement, or any related document of proof.
12. 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 another similar program. Calculator can be found here: http://pvwatts.nrel.gov/
13. Layout drawing	A layout drawing of the project which shows location of all major equipment and possible roof obstructions
14. Manufacturer's specifications	1) For **panels** to be installed 2) For **inverter(s)** to be installed 3) For the revenue **grade meter** to be installed
15. Project Completion:	Projects must be completed within two (2) years of contract signing.
16. Final Inspection:	Commerce RI reserves the right to inspect all projects before final funding is released.
17. Photos of Installation Components	In preparation of the final inspection, a potential self-inspection form may be required due to unforeseen events that will not allow for an on-site inspection to occur. Please take photos of the following (the list labeled "Inspection Photos Checklist," after the installation) during installation. Photos should be saved in .jpg format. Please keep these photos on file until the grant has been paid. Please see checklist below (may be subject to change).

FOR ALL OTHER QUESTIONS:

Please contact the REF staff at REF@commerceri.com for application questions;

For more information: https://commerceri.com/financing/renewable-energy-fund/

Inspection Photos Checklist (Subject to change)	**Check:**
Module Nameplate Photo	
Full Array Image(s)	
Array Mounting/Flashing Detail	
Under-Array Wire Management	
Array Grounding	
Wiring of Junction and/or Combiner Box	
Balance of System (BOS) Overview Photos	
DC Disconnect Exterior	
DC Disconnect Interior	
String Inverter Exterior	
String Inverter Nameplate Photo	
String Inverter Interior	
Microinverter/Optimizer Nameplate Photo	
Microinverter/Optimizer	
AC Combiner Exterior	
AC Combiner Interior	
AC Disconnect Exterior	
AC Disconnect Interior	
Production Meter Interior	
All Interconnection: Main Service Breaker/Fuse Rating	
All Interconnection: Main Service panel nameplate	
Supply side connection	
Supply side connection disconnect exterior	
Supply side connection disconnect interior	
Feeder Tap connection	
Feeder Tap connection disconnect exterior	
Feeder Tap connection disconnect interior	
Load side connection- Main service panel exterior (Door closed)	
Load side connection Main service panel (Door Open)	
Load side connection Main service panel (Interior showing wiring details)	
Additional Photos	