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USDA - REAP
Making it work

Offices: Surrey, BC, Halifax, NS, Hartlebury, UK
Pros

• Legacy program, well understood
• It’s the only program available in certain areas (beyond ITC)
• Can provide a significant cost-share

Hurdles to overcome

• Paperwork burden
• Competitive (though well-funded)
• Complicated
• Environmental review process can be a challenge
Consider seeking help

• They’ll educate you
  – Eligibility requirements, timing, funding levels, application requirements

• They’ll help you apply and let you know what’s required of you
  – Financials (including business statements)
  – Property information
  – Electrical (or other) usage/cost

• Provide you with guidance on technology and project design (big picture)
Help Should

• Ensure a clearly organized application, aligned with the program requirements

• Lead coordination with other agencies
  – Environmental (US Fish and Wildlife/EPA)
  – State (Historic)

• Work with you on ensuring top possible score
  – Equipment choice (commercially available)
  – Team selection (developer, finance, construction, O&M)
  – Right-sizing of the project (or matching activity to project)
  – Alignment of project to state programs and goals
Where do you find help? (and who are they)

- **Ask** your USDA Representative
  - They’ll have a list of folks they like
  - Help can be a proper consultant (recommended for larger, more expensive projects)
  - For smaller projects a dealer can provide an appropriate level of support
  - For DIY, USDA is your help...look to the IA site first!

Your USDA Representative is Key

- **Work** with your USDA Representative
  - They have many other programs on their plates
    - However, most of them really like this program
  - Start the relationship early, get to know them
    - They want you to succeed and are your best champion
  - Make it easy for them
    - Good organization, limited last-minute additions/surprises
    - Avoid changing strategy/team mid-race
  - Contact at least a month prior to final submission (e.g. by June 7 for July 7, 2014 deadline)
Environmental

- Federal “nexus” requires consultation
- Requires a minimum amount of time (60+ days)
- With alignment with new FWS guidelines
- Can be reduced (first letter can be avoided)
- Need not be a show stopper
  - Landscape level
  - Project level
### Technical Report (35 pts)

- **A. Qualifications of Project Team** 10%
- **B. Agreements and permits** 5%
- **C. Energy or resource assessment** 10%
- **D. Design and engineering** 30%
- **E. Project development schedule** 5%
- **F. Project economic assessment** 20%
- **G. Equipment procurement** 5%
- **H. Equipment installation** 5%
- **I. Operation and maintenance** 5%
- **J. Dismantling and disposal of project components** 5%
Conclusions

• It’s complicated, but -
• There’s help out there
• With the right (motivated) help, it can require much less work (for you)
• The program holds considerable promise and value
Thank you!