

# Tap Into USDA Funding for Your Rural Energy Project

If you are thinking about making your farm or rural business more energy efficient, or adding renewable energy for power or heating, consider a grant or loan guarantee from the USDA's Rural Energy for America Program (REAP). Established in 2002, REAP provides hundreds of grants totaling up to 25% of your project's costs, and loan guarantees for up to 75% of your project's costs. REAP has provided over \$200 million in grants and loan guarantees for projects ranging from efficient lighting and irrigation system upgrades to wind, solar, small hydro and biomass energy projects across rural America.



Applying for a REAP grant takes time and knowledge of the thorny details of the application process, and most people are busy enough running their business or farm. Experience shows that using a low-cost grant application service greatly improves the success rate for obtaining REAP funding.

Harvesting Clean Energy, a 10-year-old program designed to support energy improvements in the rural Northwest, now offers extensive REAP application services for farmers and small businesses. Our team can translate information about your proposed project into strong applications for grants and loan guarantees

## Our Services

- Knowledge of REAP regulations that can make or break your application's success
- Knowledge of funding options in the REAP program
- Knowledge of application strategies to obtain REAP funding
- Evaluating your project idea to assess its likelihood of REAP funding
- Information checklists for you and your project idea
- Direct work with your vendors to compile the best information about your project idea
- Translating your project information into a strong application for REAP funding
- Working directly with USDA officials to craft the best application possible
- Submitting all application forms and information to USDA
- Following up with USDA, including providing supplemental information and forms to secure your REAP funding



## Our background

Our consultants have backgrounds in engineering, LEED design, environmental science, renewable energy project development, and energy efficiency. We have formal training on the USDA REAP program, including information requirements and application evaluation methodology. We are focused on using our knowledge to help Idahoans obtain REAP funding to advance their efficiency and renewable energy projects.

## Costs

Cost includes a small base fee and a success fee contingent only upon award of the grant or loan guarantee. If your application somehow does not receive funding, then you have no further costs beyond the base fee. In other words, our success is based on your success.

## Contact us



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Applicants should be prepared to provide us with all required information about their proposal, such as the type of project, project location, contractors, and permit information. We provide applicants with a copy of the final application to review for approval, and we then submit the application to USDA.

### To request grant application services, please contact:

- Leif Elgethun at 208-301-2293 or leifelgethun@yahoo.com
- Andy Olson at 208-867-3082 or andyolson11@gmail.com

## About Harvesting Clean Energy

HCE is a nonprofit program devoted to accelerating rural economic development in the Northwest through clean energy development. HCE's annual conference has successfully brought together government and the private sector over the last 10 years to catalyze rural clean energy development in the Northwest. HCE works closely with farmers, rural businesses, USDA, rural utilities, and energy service suppliers to share knowledge that benefits the rural Northwest.



For more information on Harvesting Clean Energy visit:

[www.harvestcleanenergy.org](http://www.harvestcleanenergy.org)