



Wisconsin Energy Independence Fund

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WI Department of Commerce

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Wisconsin Energy Independence Fund

- **Clean Energy Grant & Loan Program**
 - Up to \$15 million per year for 10 years
 - Typical awards
 - \$100,000 to \$500,000
 - Competitive process
 - Up to three application cycles per year

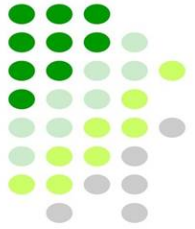




What is “Clean Energy”?

- Electrical, mechanical, or thermal energy produced from a method that uses one or more of the following:
hydrogen, biomass, biogas, solar energy, geothermal energy, biofuel, wind energy, or hydroelectric power.
- The substitution of renewable chemicals for petroleum-derived chemicals will be considered clean energy for purposes of this definition.





Who is eligible?

- Business
 - Located in or expanding in WI
 - For profit or non-profit
 - Non-governmental
- Researcher
 - Tied to an academic institution
 - Project at proof of concept stage
 - Independent private or public entity partner

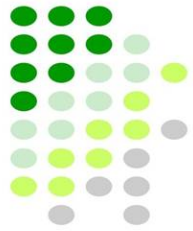




Who is eligible?

- Utilities may participate through partnerships with eligible businesses/researchers
- One application per funding cycle per project
- Smaller projects (including feasibility studies) referred to OEI

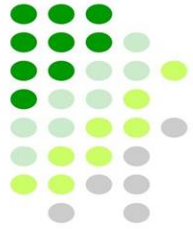




Match Requirements

- Matching funds of at least 50% of all total project costs are required for all projects
 - ABC Project will cost \$1 million
 - ABC's match must equal or exceed \$500k
- Sources other than government funds from WI
- Cash or in-kind with declarable market value





What types of projects?

Research and Development (grants)

Commercialization/Adoption (loans)

Supply Chain/Infrastructure (loans)





Research & Development

Pre-commercial R&D in transformational, game-changing technology

- Viable science
- Market potential
- Renewable energy output / savings
- Project readiness
- Time to commercialization
- Commercialized or manufactured in Wisconsin





Research & Development

Eligible Costs

- Salaries of applicant personnel (owners' salaries ineligible)
- Professional services by independent third parties
- Equipment critical to the project
- Supplies and materials





Research & Development

- All grant money to be spent in WI
- Grant period may not exceed 18 months
- Disbursements contingent on proof of match
- Match must be directly attributable to the project



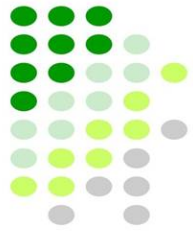


Commercialization / Adoption

Commercialization of new products that produce renewable energy or increase energy efficiency.

- Established science
- Market potential
- Above average growth
- Renewable energy output / savings
- Job creation & benefits
- Project readiness



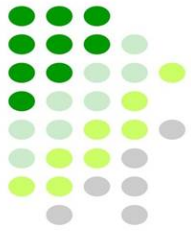


Supply Chain Development / Infrastructure

Reduce or eliminate market and other barriers to adoption of renewable energy technology

- Reduce transportation and aggregation obstacles
- Increase renewable energy sources with competitive cost structure
- Market penetration
- Economic development potential





Commercialization & Supply Chain Projects

Eligible Activities

- Construction and expansion
- Working capital
- Acquisition of
 - Existing business
 - Land
 - Buildings
 - Equipment

Refinancing is not an eligible activity





Commercialization & Supply Chain Projects

Finance Terms & Conditions

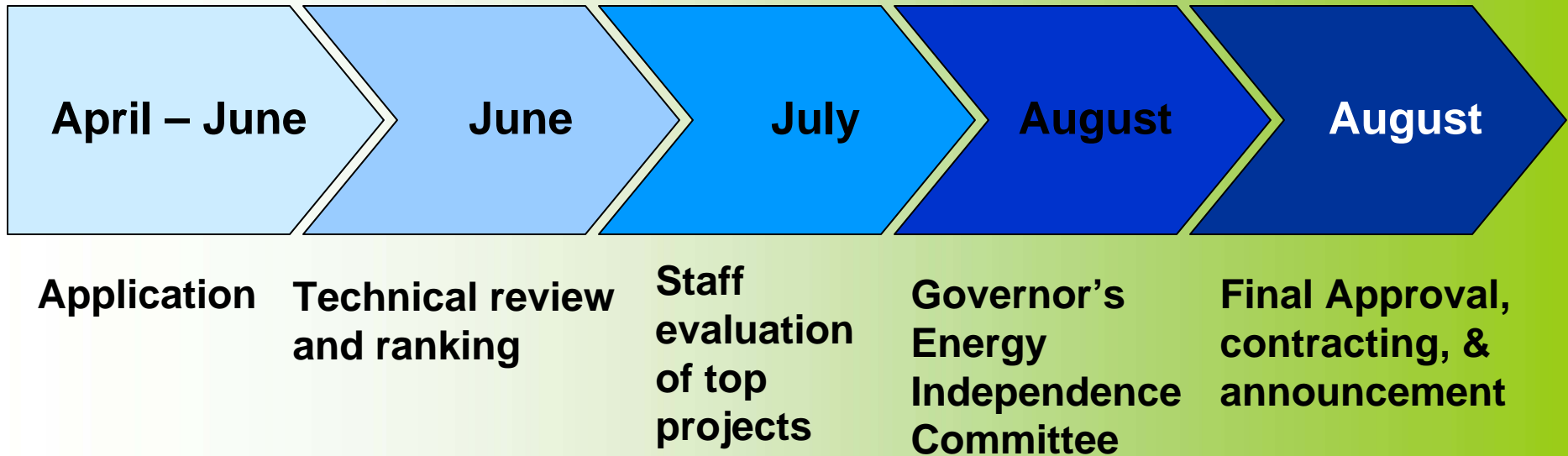
- Interest rate – 4% fixed
- Terms – up to 1 year deferral
 - Real Estate: 10-15 years
 - Equipment: 5-10 years
 - Working Capital: 5-7 years

*Loans are intended to be gap financing and typically **will not exceed 25%** of project costs*





Process





Accessing WEIF Application

<http://commerce.wi.gov/renewableenergy>

The screenshot shows a Microsoft Internet Explorer browser window with the address bar displaying <http://commerce.wi.gov/BD/BD-WEIF.html>. The page content includes a logo for the Wisconsin Department of Commerce, a title "Renewable Energy Financing Workshops", and a paragraph explaining that the Wisconsin Department of Commerce and the Office of Energy Independence will host two free workshops. It provides information on how to apply, eligibility, and program requirements. The workshops will be held in Madison and Stevens Point. A red arrow points to the "To Apply" section, which lists three steps: 1. Review the [eligibility requirements](#), 2. Understand the [process](#), and 3. Assess your project type, with sub-points for [Research and Development](#), [Commercialization/Adoption](#), and [Supply Chain Development](#). The footer contains links for "Back to the top", "Privacy Statement", "Legal Notices, Disclaimers, and Terms of Use", "Web site comments", and "Browser support".

Renewable Energy Financing Workshops

The Wisconsin Department of Commerce (Commerce) and the Office of Energy Independence will host two free renewable energy financing workshops for industry businesses and researchers. The workshops will provide information about the new Wisconsin Energy Independence Fund (WEIF), as well as other available renewable energy resources.

Information about how to apply for the WEIF program, eligibility, and program requirements will be explained at the meeting.

The workshops will be held in:

- **Madison:** Friday, April 18 from 9:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. Wisconsin Department of Commerce, 201 W. Washington Avenue.
- **Stevens Point:** Friday, April 25, 9:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m., UW-Stevens Point, Legacy Room, Dreyfus University Center, 1015 Reserve Street .

Pre-registration is not required, but space is limited.

To Apply

1. Review the [eligibility requirements](#)
2. Understand the [process](#)
3. Assess your project type:
 - o [Research and Development](#)
 - o [Commercialization/Adoption](#)
 - o [Supply Chain Development](#)

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Accessing WEIF Application

Wisconsin Department of Commerce: Wisconsin Energy Independence Fund - Research and Development - Microsoft Internet Explorer

File Edit View Favorites Tools Help

Google G Go Bookmarks 542 blocked Check AutoLink AutoFill Send to Settings

Back Search Favorites Go Links

Address http://commerce.wi.gov/BD/BD-WEIF-RnDProjects.html

Petroleum and Tanks
Safety and Buildings

Wisconsin Governor Jim Doyle

We're Hiring! Employment Opportunities

A W I . G O V . G O V WEBSITE

Grant requests may not exceed 50% of the total project costs. All Commerce grant money must be spent in Wisconsin, where practicable.

Grant Terms

Grant period may not exceed 18 months. Grant disbursements are contingent on proof of match.

To Apply

Review the [general application instructions](#) and apply using the [research and development PDF application form](#). You will need **Adobe Reader version 8.1** or higher to use all the features of the PDF form. Adobe Reader version 8.1 is available for Windows, Apple OSX and Linux and can be found at <http://www.adobe.com/products/acrobat/readstep2.html>. The form has been tested in Windows and Linux.

Examples of R & D Projects

1. The Pittsville Engine Company, which makes medium sized generator engines, has invested in researching a new generator engine, specifically for anaerobic manure digesters. It has identified a market need to produce generator engines specifically designed to run on biogas. Currently, all available generator engines in the world are designed to run on commercial gas or LPG. The owner of the company needs late-stage R & D funds to solve three specific problems related to the performance of its *Methane Monster* engine: 1). increasing the efficiency of the heat exchanger on the engine (which enables farmers to heat water with the waste heat from the engine, saving on propane costs) from 60% to 80%; 2). improving the filter on the engine so that it need only be replaced once a year rather than once every three months; and 3). developing a more corrosion resistant paint/coating for the interior surfaces and parts, so they suffer much less corrosion from the biogas. The company proposes to spend \$750,000 on the project and should have its results to report in a year. It is applying for \$150,000 to finalize the prototype.
2. Researchers at UW-Madison have teamed up with the Forest Products Laboratory and the Midwest Food Processors to explore the concept of developing large-scale, low-cost production of ethanol and distillers grain for animal products and animal feed.





General Application Instructions

- **Accessing the On-line Application**
 - <http://commerce.wi.gov/renewableenergy>
 - Save to your local drive (hard drive)
 - Close out of the on-line application
 - Open saved application (work from there)

- **Must use Adobe Reader version 8.1 or higher**

<http://www.adobe.com/products/acrobat/readstep2.html>

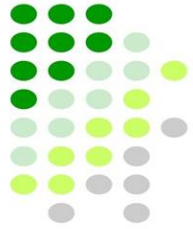




General Application Instructions

- **Filling out the Application**
 - Text fields are limited (10pt. Verdana)
 - Rich Text Fields – allow limited text formatting (bold, italic, underline, etc.)
 - Fill in “NA” if information is unavailable or not applicable
 - Save your work frequently!!!!
 - Attachments are NOT allowed





General Application Instructions

- **Submitting your Application**
 - Must be submitted Electronically
 - Hard copy applications will NOT be accepted
 - Error: “Cannot handle content type text/html” – Ignore and click “ok”
 - Email confirmation

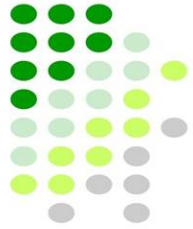




Section I: Eligibility Criteria

- Eligibility Snapshot
- Business Plan – required if application is chosen for Phase II
- Project Title, Type, Abstract – required
- Project Abstract
 - Information should be clear, concise and written in layperson’s terms
 - Do not include proprietary information

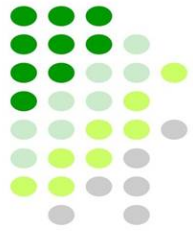




Section II. Applicant Information

- Part A: Applicant Information
 - Contact information and e-mail **REQUIRED!!!**
- Part B: Business Information
 - NAICS Code – necessary for tracking
 - Ownership: major owners may have to submit personal financial statements
- Part C: Employment Information
 - Use current info, not projections

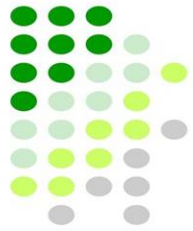




Section II. Applicant Information

- Part D: Financial Information
 - Snapshot – past 3 years and 3 years into the future
 - Phase II – detailed financial statements will be required
- Part E: Legal Information
 - Standard Commerce language





Section IV. Certification Statement

- Certify: information submitted is true and correct
- Trade Secret: if left blank, will be open for examination and copying
- Authorized Representative e-signature
 - Required
 - Application will not be submitted without signature





Section III, Part A

Project Description

- **Project Description**

- Identifies viable market opportunity in WI
- Supports objectives & strategies to realize the opportunity

- **Project Readiness**

- Identifies human and financial capacity to realize the project in a timely manner

- **Project Deliverables**

- Clear, measurable and consistent with the project
- Cost per BTU analysis where applicable





Section III, Part B Applicant Qualifications

- Demonstrates capacity to successfully realize project
- May include up to 5 pages (accommodates resumes)





Section III, Part C Technical Background

- Supported by established or viable science
- Describes laboratory, beta testing scientific modeling, prototypes, etc.
- Identifies existing or pending patents/intellectual property





Section III, Part D Project Potential

- **Research & Development**
 - Game-changing/transformational
 - Innovative application of existing technology
 - Commercialization potential in Wisconsin





Section III, Part D

Project Potential

- **Commercialization/Adoption**
 - Furthers clean energy usage – replaces non-renewables
 - Significant market growth potential
 - Job creation – quality & quantity
 - Indirect economic development benefits





Section III, Part D

Project Potential

- **Supply Chain Development**
 - Reduces/eliminates market barriers to adoption
 - Significant market growth potential
 - Direct or indirect economic development benefits





Section III, Part E Project Budget

- **Funding needs and sources of match clearly identified**
- **Budget is reasonable, cost effective and appropriate for project objectives**
- **Project match: more is better and cash is king**





Section III, Part E Project Budget (R&D)

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Please fill out the following form. You can save data typed into this form. Highlight Fields

Section III. Part E: Project Budget

PROJECT FUNDING OVERVIEW		
Item	Cost in Dollars	Percent of Total (Calculated fields, do not enter data)
Amount of Assistance Requested	\$0	
Other State Funding	\$0	
Other Federal Funding	\$0	
Private Funding	\$0	
Other Funding	\$0	
Total Budget (Calculated fields, do not enter data)	\$0	

DETAILED PROJECT BUDGET

Grant Request Period: From Date (i.e. 06-01-2008): To Date (i.e. 01-01-2009):

Budget Category (uses)	Project Funding Sources - 50% Match Required (refer to Notes below the table)							
	Total (Do not enter data. See Notes.)	Commerce (Do not enter data. See Notes.)	Source #1		Source #2		Source #3	
			Enter Name	T	Enter Name	T	Enter Name	T
Personnel	\$0	\$0	\$0		\$0		\$0	
Equipment	\$0	\$0	\$0		\$0		\$0	
Professional Services								
Audit	\$0	\$0	\$0		\$0		\$0	
Legal	\$0	\$0	\$0		\$0		\$0	
Accounting	\$0	\$0	\$0		\$0		\$0	
Engineering	\$0	\$0	\$0		\$0		\$0	
Other	\$0	\$0	\$0		\$0		\$0	
Supplies/Materials	\$0	\$0	\$0		\$0		\$0	
Travel	\$0	\$0	\$0		\$0		\$0	
Rent	\$0	\$0	\$0		\$0		\$0	
Leasehold Improvements	\$0	\$0	\$0		\$0		\$0	
Alterations & Renovations	\$0	\$0	\$0		\$0		\$0	
Other	\$0	\$0	\$0		\$0		\$0	
TOTAL	\$0	\$0	\$0		\$0		\$0	

Notes: The Total and Commerce fields are automatically calculated by completing the GRANT REQUEST DETAIL tables below and on the following page.
For Source #1, Source #2 and Source #3, the field T represents funding source type and should be set to one of the following:
C = Cash funding; I = In-Kind funding; O = Other funding.

GRANT REQUEST DETAIL - PERSONNEL

Personnel (applicant Organization Only)		Type	Percent	Institutional	Dollar Amount Requested		
Name	Role on Project	Appointment (months)	Effort on Project	Base Salary (HOURLY)	Salary Requested	Fringe Benefits	Total Salary plus Fringe

8.50 x 11.00 in



Section III, Part E Project Budget

http://commerce.wi.gov/BDdocs/WEIF-RD-Application.pdf - Microsoft Internet Explorer

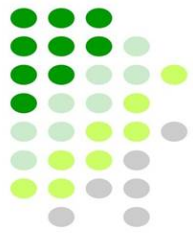
Please fill out the following form. You can save data typed into this form. [Highlight Fields](#)

Section III. Part E: Project Budget

PREVIOUS FEDERAL AWARDS (SBIR, STTR, ATP, etc.)					
Date Awarded	Project Title	Dates of Project Period		Funding Organization	Amount
		From	To		
					\$0
					\$0
					\$0
					\$0
					\$0

PREVIOUS STATE AWARDS (Training Grants, Public Facilities, Infrastructure, Tax Credits, etc.)					
Date Awarded	Project Title	Dates of Project Period		Funding Organization	Amount
		From	To		
					\$0
					\$0
					\$0
					\$0
					\$0

Done Unknown Zone



Section III, Part F

Statutory Considerations

- Briefly, how and to what extent the project involves:
 - A new process, practice of technology
 - Development, production or distribution
 - Use of existing surplus or by-products
 - Conversion of waste or by-products
 - Commercialization or manufacture of products & services in WI
 - Utilization of clean energy sources by WI manufacturers





Section III, Part G Other

- Relevant information not covered elsewhere
- Special attributes such as:
 - Does the project have other environmental benefits?
 - Does the project have other social or community benefits?
 - Does the project complement existing WI industries?





Want to know more?

[http://commerce.wi.gov/
renewableenergy](http://commerce.wi.gov/renewableenergy)

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