

Draft Energy Trust Hydropower Initiative

Goal

Identify and enable the development of at least 10MW of hydropower over the next 5-10 years.

Major Elements

Resource identification study. Employ a contractor to identify and contact ~50 of the largest surface and storage water right holders that have not yet engaged with Energy Trust staff. Perform “scoping study” style analyses for eligible participants that enroll in the study. Identify potentially developable hydropower resources, focusing on resources 1MW or larger.

Competitive Request for Project Proposals. Develop criteria and use a deadline to solicit competitive entries for project proposals. Winners to receive up to \$30,000 (or more?) in expert assistance for system design, final financial feasibility, interconnection, and development. The goal is a “design/build style” application of Energy Trust funds in lieu of funding standard feasibility studies. Some projects that win will not end up being feasible, just as some feasibility studies are not successful.

[Other ideas, if possible: Make additional funds available to aid in permitting and/or construction financing of strong projects owned by municipalities or other non-profits. Any such funds would be provided as a pre-payment of future incentive dollars. Energy Trust can and should also provide assistance in matching projects with third-party financing.]

Market Sectors with Opportunities at Existing Diversions

- **Irrigation Districts**
 - Canal pressurization projects
 - Adding or upgrading hydro at storage reservoirs
 - Pressure reduction valve replacements
- **Municipalities & Other Water Purveyors**
 - Pressure reduction valve replacements
 - Adding or upgrading hydro at storage reservoirs
 - Aquifer storage and recovery
 - Wastewater treatment plant outfalls

Please send comments to:

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