



# Corvallis, Oregon – An EPA Green Power Community

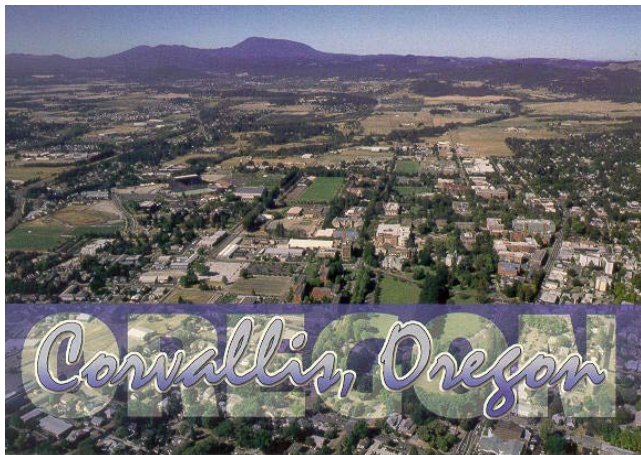
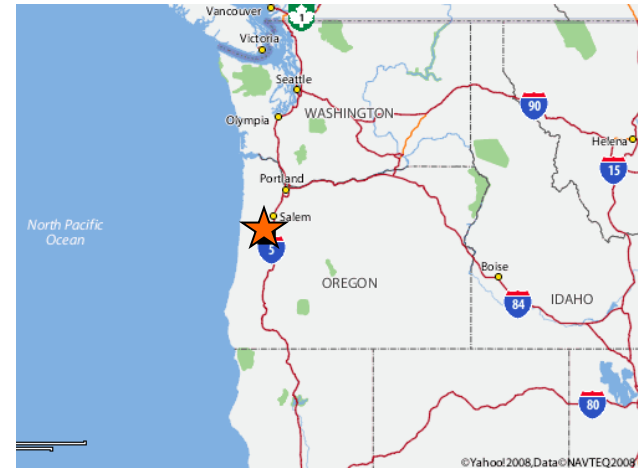
EPA Webinar  
January 18, 2012

# Corvallis Case Study

- About Corvallis
- Timeline
- Green power suppliers
- Green power usage
- Cost-benefit
- Success factors
- EPA Climate Showcase grant

# About Corvallis

- Location
- Population
- University
- Major employers





Corvallis joins Cities for Climate Protection campaign

Council community Challenge; City ups Blue Sky to 7%



OSU "green energy" fee

\$511,600 federal energy block grant



2000 01 02 03 04 2005 06 07 08 09 2010

City signs up for 100kWh/month of green power—about 1% of electrical load



Corvallis named EPA Green Power Community

Corvallis Energy Challenge



GREEN POWER Leadership Awards

"Community of the Year"



Climate Showcase Communities Local Climate and Energy Program

# Green power suppliers



- Pacific Power - Blue Sky
- Consumers Power - landfill gas, Bonneville Environmental Foundation
- Northwest Natural - Smart Energy
- Onsite generation

# Green power usage

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Annual green power use (kWh)	20,243,395	26,487,408	30,003,647	100,418,950	99,965,548	82,876,982
Total annual electricity use (kWh)	686,726,277	700,920,816	702,535,048	791,359,175	683,981,379	600,557,840
Green power as a percent of total electricity use	3%	3.78%	4.3%	12.7%	14.6%	13.8%

# Cost-Benefit

Green Power	Date(s)	Tangible	Intangible
Cost	2001-2011	~58K	
Benefit	2007-2008	Corvallis Energy Challenge <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Energy Trust expenditure = \$112K</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Revenue for local contractors</li> <li>- Public engagement</li> </ul>
	2009	Pacific Power Blue Sky grant: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Total funding = \$78,750</li> <li>- Annual energy saving = ~ \$1155</li> <li>- Revenue for solar installer</li> </ul>	
	2010	EPA Climate Showcase Communities grant: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Total funding = \$492K</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Revenue for local contractors</li> <li>- Public engagement</li> <li>- Political support</li> </ul>
	2011	Pacific Power Blue Sky grant: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Total funding = \$180K</li> <li>- Annual energy saving = ~ \$2200</li> <li>- Revenue for solar installer</li> </ul>	
	2006-2011	See above ☺	Reputation as a "green" community

# Cost-Benefit, cont.

- **“Corvallis named in Top 100 Places to Live and #6 Recreation City!” *Relocate America*, August 2010**  
*“Ranked #1 on the Environmental Protection Agency's national list of Green Power Communities”*
- **“Where to Live and Play Now,” *National Geographic Adventure*, October 2009**  
*“100: Gigawatt hours of green power Corvallis buys a year—more than any other city in the country”*
- **“Best Green Place to Live in America,” *Country Home*, March 2008**  
*“Green power also played a key role in the city's inclusion on Country Home's list....The city purchases 15 percent of its power from renewable sources, and in 2006, the city was named a Green Power Community by the EPA.”*
- **“Where to Live Now: The 20 Best Towns in America,” *Outside*, August 2008**  
*“In 2006, Corvallis became the second US city (after Moab) to be named an EPA Green Power Community...”*





# Success factors

- Environmental ethic



- City of Corvallis leadership
- Collaboration of government, university, businesses, and residents
- Good relations with utility companies
- Strategic planning

# EPA Climate Showcase grant



Energize CORVALLIS

Federal grant: \$491,762

Cost Share: \$280,160 in-kind match

Total: \$771,922

- Corvallis Environmental Center
  - Communities Take Charge
  - Energy Advocates
  - Energizers
- OSU-Benton County Extension
  - Neighborhood Sustainability Stewards
- The Resource Innovation Group
  - Green Shares



# In case I made it sound easy...

- “My fundamental issue with this project is the cost vs. benefit of solar. Solar, without subsidy isn't profitable/economical.
- “Solyndra (& solar in general) has been in the news far more recently than any other wasteful gov. enterprise lately...don't you think the public will pick up on that, when the news of this project gets out? A billion dollars is kind of a big deal.”
- “The fiscal responsibility has to start somewhere! The “if we don't take it someone else will” attitude just leads us further down the road to social/economic disaster. The erosion of our freedoms and increase of governments influence is fundamentally transforming our country into the next European disaster. I believe what allowed America to excel was the uniqueness of the independent populace. We are losing that independence at an astonishing rate...So, getting governments out of subsidizing things means stopping pork projects.”

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Thank you!

Questions?

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