

Energy Smart Reserve Power
Energy Efficiency Proposal Incentive Application
Frequently Asked Questions

Energy Smart Reserve Power (ESRP) is a new incentive program targeting Reserve Power Irrigation Districts. The goal of the program is to provide incentives for the implementation of cost-effective energy savings projects that will help maximize the efficiency of the Federal Columbia River Power System (FRCPS).

- How much incentive money is available?
BPA is soliciting projects for the federal fiscal year 2013 (starting 10/1/12). The total funding available is \$2.5 million. These incentive funds will be allocated to ESRP applications with the lowest incentive rates.
- How can I apply?
Each eligible irrigation district will receive an invitation to apply which will include an application form. Please fill the application form in completely, provide the requested supplemental materials and submit the completed application packet to BPA.
- Can I submit multiple projects in my proposal?
Yes. Applicants are encouraged to bundle multiple projects together. However, keep in mind that the total incentive rate (\$/kWh/yr saved) for each proposal is critical. Adding measures with higher incentive rates may make your proposal less competitive.
- Can I apply more than once?
You can submit multiple proposals, provided that each one meets the basic criteria. It may make sense to apply once for all the projects with a low incentive rate (\$0.14 pre kWh or less) and a second time for those projects with a higher incentive rate.
- How much of an incentive can I receive?
Unlike most other BPA incentive programs, ESRP does not offer a fixed incentive. As the applicant, you tell us what you need and we'll compare that to the other requests received. The maximum incentive rate available is \$0.25 per kWh, but last year's average application requested \$0.14 per kWh. Applications with lower incentive rates will be favored over those with a higher rate. In addition, BPA requires that each ESRP proposal have an applicant cost share of at least 30% of actual project costs.
- What types of measures are eligible?
Any measure which saves reserve power electricity is eligible. Examples include but are not limited to: upgrading to more efficient pumps, installing variable frequency drives, lining canals, implementing scheduling, or installing irrigation hardware.
- When are proposals due?
Proposals must be submitted electronically to esrp@bpa.gov. They are due to BPA no later than 11:59 pm Pacific Daylight Time on April 30, 2012.

- When will I know if my application has been successful?
We expect the review process to take 30 days with selections announced shortly thereafter, most likely after June 1, 2012.
- What is required in an application for incentives?
A full description of the project, including its location, energy efficiency measures to be installed and the method used to evaluate energy and water savings, where applicable. Please describe all project costs and note other participants in the project that are funding partners.
- Will BPA provide technical assistance in proposal preparation?
BPA engineers can provide some assistance but should not be tasked to develop proposals. They can provide advice and assistance in understanding what BPA is looking for in successful candidate proposals. BPA assistance should be coordinate by contacting Sue Majewski at 206-220-6786, or esrp@bpa.gov.
- What is a Project Verification Plan?
That is a statement of how the energy savings from your projects can be proven. This plan is the basis for BPA's incentive payments. BPA engineers can help you devise a verification plan that will work for your projects.
- Will there be some sort of agreement for selected proposals?
Yes, a simple agreement which spells out the roles and responsibilities for both parties will be required. An agreement will be provided to each irrigation district when they are notified of their selection.
- When will I get paid?
In most cases, payment will be made upon completion of the projects, verification of the savings, and satisfaction of any other requirements in the incentive agreement. Partial progress payments can be made if those payments are part of your incentive agreement.
- How will I be paid?
Payments will be made via electronic fund transfers. Participating districts will have to be registered in BPA's financial system.
- When do projects need to be completed?
Projects must be completed and operational no later than July 31, 2013.
- When can projects be started?
Work on your projects can only begin after an agreement has been signed. No project materials may be purchased prior to that.
- Will more incentives be available next year?
Yes. ESRP plans to have at another solicitation for incentives next year. The application process for later years may be revised based on the results from the first two years results. Details on the next solicitation will be made available as they are determined.