



# *Energy Smart Reserved Power*

Bonneville Power Administration

*Updated 2/25/2020*

Energy Smart Reserve Power, or ESRP, Program is an energy-efficiency incentive program for irrigation districts, hydroelectric facilities, substations, fish hatcheries and other facilities that access reserved power directly from the Federal Columbia River Power System, or FCRPS. The program provides funding to support the implementation of cost-effective energy-savings projects to help maximize the efficiency of the FCRPS.

**1. How much funding is available?**

The funding available for the ESRP program may vary each year, but is typically \$2,500,000 per fiscal year.

**2. How do I apply?**

Please download and complete the form, provide the requested supplemental materials and submit the completed application packet to BPA by email to [esrp@bpa.gov](mailto:esrp@bpa.gov). A copy of the current application form is available as a Word document or fillable PDF at [www.bpa.gov/goto/EnergySmartReservedPower](http://www.bpa.gov/goto/EnergySmartReservedPower).

**3. Can I submit multiple projects in my application?**

Yes. Applicants are encouraged to bundle multiple projects together. However, keep in mind that the total cost effectiveness (\$/kWh saved) for each application is critical. Including projects with higher cost per kWh achieved may make your application less competitive.

**4. Can I apply more than once?**

Yes, multiple applications may be submitted provided each one meets the program criteria.

**5. How much funding can I receive?**

The maximum funding an application is eligible to receive is capped at the lesser of the following:

- \$500,000.
- The kWh savings of the project and a maximum incentive rate based on the expected effective life of the energy-efficiency measures that are included; or
- The total project cost.

For more information, see website listed in #2.

The application form includes two tables to help you determine the maximum amount per application, based on the measures. You may submit multiple applications.

All other things being equal, applications with lower funding rates (\$/kWh) may be favored over those with higher rates. Because this program has a limited budget, you are encouraged to request less than the maximum amount if the full amount is not needed to implement the project.

**6. Can these funds be used as matching funds for federal grants?**

BPA program funds are generated from the sale of transmission services and power products. As such, these funds are considered federal. There are many federal and non-federal programs that will accept BPA funding as match funding. Applications received prior to application deadlines for other programs may be eligible to receive a letter of intent to award, which can be used for matching other programs.

**7. Which types of measures are eligible?**

Any measure which saves reserved or station energy from the FRCPS is eligible. Examples include — but are not limited to — upgrading to more efficient pumps, installing variable frequency drives, canal lining, HVAC and lighting retrofits.



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**8. When are applications due?**

Applications are due by 11:59 p.m. PDT, on the first business day of September. Applications received after this date will be considered only if funds are available after the first round of selections has been completed. Applications must be submitted electronically to [esrp@bpa.gov](mailto:esrp@bpa.gov).

**9. Will there be an Open Season this year?**

BPA will accept applications at any time. Applications received after the solicitation due date will be considered on a case-by-case basis if funds are available and may be placed in the queue for funding in future years.

**10. When will I know if my application has been successful?**

BPA typically announces funding recipients by mid-September.

**11. What is required in an application for incentives?**

The application requires a full description of the project, including its location, energy-efficiency measures to be installed, energy- and water-savings estimates, other cost savings, project-cost estimate, and the method(s) used to evaluate energy- and water-savings. Attachments and other documentation can be included to help our review.

**12. Will BPA provide technical assistance in application preparation?**

BPA engineers can provide advice and assistance in understanding what BPA is looking for in successful applications. Please email [esrp@bpa.gov](mailto:esrp@bpa.gov) to coordinate assistance.

**13. What are allowed project costs?**

Project costs should include in-house labor, contracted labor and services, materials, and the cost of any studies or design services necessary to finalize the project.

**14. What is a Project Verification Plan?**

A verification plan is a statement of how the energy savings from your projects will be measured and verified. This plan will become the basis for BPA's incentive payments. BPA engineers can help you develop a verification plan that will work for your project(s). The final plan must be acceptable to BPA and may be different from what is specified in your application.

**15. Is there an Agreement for selected applications?**

Yes. An Agreement that spells out the roles and responsibilities for both parties will be required. Agreements will be provided for each application selected for funding, identify the maximum amount of funding, and include the verification plan, Agreement terms and conditions.

**16. When will I be 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 ESRP agreement. If the project is structured to be completed in phases, the payment can also occur in phases after energy savings are verified, if such an approach was pre-authorized by BPA.

**17. 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. BPA staff will contact you to set up the payments.



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### **18. When do projects need to be completed?**

Projects should ideally be completed by the end of the fiscal year on Sept. 30, 2020, during which the Agreement is established. Projects can extend beyond the fiscal year in which the Agreement is established, but incentive funding is subject to availability and program requirements at the time of completion and verification.

### **19. When can projects be started?**

Projects can be started at any time without prior BPA approval, but BPA strongly recommends engagement with its personnel before project kick-off for any projects that may qualify for an ESRP program incentive. Early engagement will ensure the potential project meets the criteria for program participation and a successful savings verification plan can be implemented.

### **20. What about multiyear projects?**

BPA will accept proposals for projects with completion dates in future fiscal years. However, incentive payments will be subject to future budget availability. BPA will apply applicable program requirements at the time of completion.

### **21. What if my project changes after we have an agreement?**

The maximum funding your project may receive is specified in the Agreement. BPA appreciates advance notification of all significant changes to your project. If the changes increase the funding eligibility of the project, contact BPA as soon as possible to request consideration of a modification to your Agreement. Any modification to increase the incentive associated with your Agreement must occur prior to project completion.