Utility scale renewable energy

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Secure .gov websites use HTTPS A lock (Lock Locked padlock) or https:// means you"ve safely connected to the .gov website. Share sensitive information only on official, secure websites.

Utility-scale renewable energy projects are typically defined as those 10 megawatts or larger. Utility-scale renewable energy projects can benefit from state and local policies and programs that help to address and overcome potential barriers to implementation. Resources related to different types of utility-scale renewable energy policies and programs are available below.

A feed-in tariff (FIT) is an energy-supply policy focused on supporting the development of new renewable power generation. In the United States, FIT policies provide a guarantee to eligible renewable generators that their utility will be required to purchase either electricity, or both electricity and renewable energy attributes. The FIT contract provides a guarantee of payments in dollars per kilowatt hour for the full output of the system for a guaranteed period of time (typically 15-20 years).

Incentive programs for utility-scale projects are highly individualized. The most effective states have coupled renewable portfolio standards with financial mechanisms such as tax benefits and clean energy fund grants to encourage and support development of large-scale projects within their borders.

A renewable portfolio standard (RPS) is a regulatory method mandating utility companies operating within a certain jurisdiction to increase production of energy from renewable sources, such as wind, solar, biomass, and other alternatives to fossil and nuclear electric generation. This is also known as a renewable electricity standard.

Other Resources:Designing the Right RPS: A Guide to Selecting Goals and Program Options for a Renewable Portfolio Standard

Evaluating the Benefits and Costs of a Renewable Portfolio Standard

A monthly update for state, local, and K-12 stakeholders featuring resources to advance successful, high-impact, and long-lasting energy efficiency and renewable energy partnerships, programs, and projects.

For more resources, explore ourall resources webpage.

Understanding Cost Parity

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This factsheet is simple, go-to resource outlining how electricity supply options (renewable vs. traditional), specifically utility-scale renewable energy systems, can be appropriately compared.

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