

BETC Talking Points --

- Oregon' green economy is ahead of the national curve. The state is 12 times greener than the national average¹. We have seen a huge uptick in "green patents" up 540% from the 1990's. In 2007, venture capitalists invested nearly \$50 million in Oregon clean tech, a record. Oregon now ranks #1 in the nation in green jobs per capita. Oregon has made a conscious effort to establish itself as a leader and focus on green "clusters". The BETC/RETC has been a key and successful component of our strategy.
- The BETC/RETC is a comprehensive economic development program that has spurred economic development in Oregon. The BETC/RETC has promoted Oregon's clean economy by incenting renewable energy, energy efficiency, recycling, agriculture, forestry and green transportation.
- Investment in new renewable energy generation, manufacturing, and energy efficiency is critical to spur economic growth, fight global warming, and preserve the unique quality of life across Oregon. Increased clean energy development ensures that communities can count on jobs, economic development, and a bright future; utilities can count on stable, dependable power; and consumers can feel good about the legacy they are leaving future generations.
 - To date, Oregon has seen more than 1600 full and part time jobs created and over \$142 million in property taxes and community service fees contributed.
 - In Oregon, billions have been invested in renewable energy, conservation and manufacturing projects to date, and there is at least double that amount of investment permitted or under construction in 2009.
 - In 2008, the American Council for an Energy Efficient Economy ranked Oregon #2 in the country for its energy efficiency programs and policies, including BETC/RETC. These programs have saved Oregonians hundreds of millions of dollars.
 - If BETC/RETC expired, these benefits would be jeopardized. Either funding for Energy Trust or other programs would have to be increased, or Oregonians will lose the benefits of energy efficiency and pay more for energy.
 - The BETC/RETC limitations that have been under discussion over the past year would significantly reduce the number of small- and medium-scale renewable energy projects funded under Energy Trust programs.
- The new temporary administrative rules issued by ODOE on November 3rd, 2009 ensure that the BETC can be managed more effectively and that the agency can weed out any bad actors while still providing support for this important sector.
- Please add your own talking points based on your own business success with the BETC.

¹ Business Journal, Sustainable Oregon, 11/20/2009, p. 17; based on a new report by the National Governor's Association prepared by Collaborative Economics