

Qualification Requirements for Installing Small-Scale Solar Photovoltaic & Wind Energy Systems

NorthWestern Energy has developed qualification requirements for contractors interested in receiving Universal Systems Benefit (USB) renewable energy (RE) funds to install Solar Photovoltaic (PV) and Small-Scale Wind Systems. These qualification requirements are effective **June 1, 2009**. All contractors interested in receiving 2009 USB RE funds must meet these qualifications. Please submit a completed qualification application before June 1, 2009 to Danie Williams at NorthWestern Energy if you are interested in receiving USB funds in the first half of 2009. Applications received after June 1, 2009, will not be considered for the first half of the 2009 USB funding cycle. Mail the application to Danie Williams at:

NorthWestern Energy
Attn: Danie Williams
40 East Broadway
Butte, MT 59701

Please submit a separate solar PV qualification application and a wind qualification application if you applying for USB RE funds for solar PV and the small-scale wind systems.

If you do not meet the qualification requirements, and would like to be considered for future USB RE funds, please contact Danie Williams at 497-3516 for information on future safety training sponsored by NorthWestern Energy and organizations that provide training and education on renewable energy.

Solar PV Qualifications:

To be eligible to receive USB renewable energy funds from NorthWestern Energy for installing residential and commercial **Solar PV Systems**, the contractor must:

- a. Hold, in good standing, a current Journeyman or Masters Electrician License in the State of Montana, and,
- b. Demonstrate the successful completion of at least 8 hours of classroom instruction or training on installing solar PV systems, and,
- c. Demonstrate the successful completion of at least five residential or commercial grid-tie solar PV installations, and,
- d. Demonstrate the successful completion of OSHA approved safety training in the four areas noted in the OSHA/MREA Partnership Agreement (falls, electrical, struck-by hazards, caught in-between hazards). This includes accident reporting and record keeping requirements.
- e. Hold, in good standing a current contractor license with the State of Montana, and
- f. Demonstrate the ability to meet all the Workers Compensation and Insurance requirements outlined in the Contract between NorthWestern Energy and the Contractor.

Or,

- a. Demonstrate the successful completion of coursework and passed the NABCEP solar PV certification program – including passing the NABCEP examination, and,
- b. Demonstrate the successful completion of a minimum of 10 residential or commercial solar PV grid-tie installations, and,
- c. Demonstrate the successful completion of OSHA approved safety training in the four areas noted in the OSHA/MREA Partnership Agreement (falls, electrical, struck-by hazards, and caught in-between hazards). This includes accident reporting and record keeping requirements.
- d. Demonstrate the ability to comply with the State of Montana Electrical Standard relating to installations over 90 volts AC.
- e. Hold, in good standing, a current contractor license with the State of Montana, and
- f. Demonstrate the ability to meet the Workers Compensation and Insurance requirements outlined in the Contract between NorthWestern Energy and the Contractor.

Small-Scale Wind Qualifications:

To be eligible to receive USB renewable energy funds from NorthWestern Energy for installing residential and commercial **Small-Scale Wind Systems**, the contractor must:

- a. Hold, in good standing, a current Journeyman or Masters Electrician License in the State of Montana, and,
- b. Demonstrate the successful completion of at least five residential or commercial small scale wind installations, and,
- c. Demonstrate the successful completion of OSHA approved safety training in the four areas noted in the OSHA/MREA Partnership Agreement (falls, electrical, struck-by hazards, caught in-between hazards). This includes accident reporting and record keeping requirements.
- d. Hold, in good standing a current contractor license with the State of Montana, and
- e. Demonstrate the ability to meet all the Workers Compensation and Insurance requirements outlined in the Contract between NorthWestern Energy and the Contractor.

Or,

- a. Demonstrate the successful completion of 8 hours of coursework on small-scale wind systems, and,
- b. Demonstrate the successful completion of a minimum of 10 residential or commercial small scale wind installations, and,
- c. Demonstrate the successful completion of OSHA approved safety training in the four areas noted in the OSHA/MREA Partnership Agreement (falls, electrical, struck-by hazards, and caught in-between hazards). This includes accident reporting and record keeping requirements.
- d. Demonstrate the ability to comply with the State of Montana Electrical Standard relating to installations over 90 volts AC.
- e. Hold, in good standing, a current contractor license with the State of Montana, and,
- f. Demonstrate the ability to meet the Workers Compensation and Insurance requirements outlined in the Contract between NorthWestern Energy and the Contractor.

**For questions related to the safety training and the OSHA/MREA Partnership Agreement, contact John Jones at High Mark Media at highmark@mac.com or (406) 475-3551

Qualification Requirement Form

Business Name: _____
Contractor Name: _____
Address: _____
City, State, Zip: _____
Phone: _____
Email: _____

Submit copies or proof of Journeyman/Master Electrician License:

Or

Submit copies or proof of NABCEP Solar PV Coursework and Certification. Include classes attended and course title(s), instructor(s), instructor contact information and course location:

Proof of 8-hour instruction/training for Solar PV systems - include course title, instructor, instructor contact information and course location:

(for Contractor's that hold an Electrician's License only)

Proof of 8-hour Coursework for Small-Scale Wind systems – include course title, instructor, instructor contact information and course location:

(for Contractor's without Electrician's License only)

References for completed residential or commercial Solar PV grid-tie or Small-Scale Wind installations – include name, contact, address, phone number and a brief project description for each installation including system size, whether it is off-grid or grid-tie and whether it included battery storage, a UPS system or an emergency transfer switch:

(Include 5 for a Journeyman or Master Electrician)

(Include 10 for NABCEP Solar PV certification program or Small-Scale Wind Installations)

Proof of OSHA approved safety training in the four areas mentioned:

Proof of current State of Montana Contractor License:

Additional Information:

(if necessary)