

Engineering Education Investment Fund
Proposal for
“Top Tier” Funding for the
Oregon Renewable Energy Center
Oregon Institute of Technology

Presented to the
Engineering and Technology Industry Council
by President Martha Anne Dow

December 12, 2001

HB3289 established OREC August 3, 2001.

The mission and objectives:

- ◆ Applied research
- ◆ Systems engineering
- ◆ Technical assistance and information dissemination
- ◆ Academic degree programs
- ◆ Industrial training

OREC activities are focused in the areas of:

- ◆ Photo-voltaic (PV) and electricity generation
- ◆ Geothermal energy utilization
- ◆ Ground-coupled heat pump space heating/cooling
- ◆ Electricity production by hydrogen fuel cells
- ◆ Wind-generated electricity
- ◆ Other “clean energy” technologies

Funding requests:

◆ 2001-2002: \$175,000 ETIC

\$100,000 industry match (seeking)

\$300,000 DOE funding (secured)

◆ 2002-2003 \$175,000 ETIC

\$ 75,000 industry match (seeking)

\$185,000 DOE funding (secured)

\$100,000 additional match (seeking)

OREC and “Top Tier” Objectives”

- ◆ Help build global export industry in state and region
- ◆ Provide a facility where “clean energy” companies can test new technologies and begin commercialization
- ◆ Help emerging businesses develop applications
- ◆ Build a new academic degree program in renewable energy
- ◆ Provide research opportunities
- ◆ Attract new researchers to region
- ◆ OREC researchers to publish in scientific journals
- ◆ Facilitate technology transfer

Conclusion:

As the political and economic debate over power generation continues, one thing is abundantly clear: **renewable energy is no longer an option--it is a necessity!** OREC can play an important role in helping Oregon and the Pacific Northwest respond to this imperative.