

**Rural Energy for America Program RES/EEI  
Evaluation Criteria Scoring guideline  
Per 4280-B Regulation 94280.112 (e) and 2009 NOSA**

<b>Name of Applicant:</b>	_____
<b>Type of Technology:</b>	_____
<b>Funding Request:</b>	_____
<b>Final Total Score (Points) (Sum of Categories 1-11):</b>	_____

List the maximum points the applicant is eligible for under each of the following ten categories, sum the individual scores (points), and place the total in the above box under "Final Total Score."

**1 Quantity of Energy Replaced, Produced, or Saved**

Points may only be awarded for one category (A, B, or C). **Tech Reviewer will provide opinion on (i) or(ii)**

**(i) Energy replacement**

If the proposed renewable energy system is intended primarily for self use by the agricultural producer or rural small business, and will provide energy replacement of:

	Points
Greater than 0, but equal to or less than 25%, <b>award 5 points.</b>	
Greater than 25%, but equal to or less than 50%, <b>award 10 points.</b>	
Greater than 50%, <b>award 15 points.</b>	
Determine energy replacement by dividing the estimated quantity of renewable energy to be generated over a 12 month period by the estimated quantity of energy consumed over the same 12 month period during the previous year by the applicable energy application. The estimated quantities of energy must be converted to British thermal units (BTU's), Watts, or similar energy equivalents to facilitate scoring. If the estimated energy produced equals more than 150% of the energy requirements of the applicable process(es) score the project as an energy generation project.	

Attach the documentation to substantiate this score for this category.

You have identified this documentation via tab # \_\_\_\_\_

Your explanation of points awarded to be entered into the tracking system.

**or**

**(II) Energy Savings (include additional 5 points if applicable)**

(1) If the estimated energy expected to be saved by the installation of the energy efficiency improvements will be from:

	Points
20% up to but not including 30%, <b>award 5 points.</b>	
30% up to but not including 35%, <b>award 10 points.</b>	
35% or greater, <b>award 15 points.</b>	
Energy savings will be determined by the projections in an energy assessment or audit.	

(2) Additional points

	Points
If the project has total eligible project costs of <b>\$50,000 or less</b> AND opts to obtain a professional energy audit, <b>award an additional 5 points.</b>	

Attach the documentation to substantiate this score for this category.

You have identified this documentation via tab # \_\_\_\_\_

Your explanation of points awarded to be entered into the tracking system.

**or**

**(iii) Energy Generation**

	Points
If the proposed renewable energy system is intended primarily for production of energy for sale, <b>award 10 points.</b>	

Attach the documentation to substantiate this score for this category.

You have identified this documentation via tab # \_\_\_\_\_

Your explanation of points awarded to be entered into the tracking system.

**2 Environmental Benefits**

If the purpose of the proposed system contributes to the environmental goals and objectives of other Federal, State, or local programs, <b>award 10 points.</b>	<b>Points</b>
Award points only if the applicant provided documentation from an appropriate authority supporting the claim. The appropriate authority must document how the project meets established environmental goals or objectives of Federal, State or local programs. The documentation provided must reference the applicant by name, the REAP program, and specify the project for which the applicant has applied.	

Attach the documentation to substantiate this score for this category.  
 You have identified this documentation via tab # \_\_\_\_\_  
 Your explanation of points awarded to be entered into the tracking system.

**3 Commercial Availability**

If the proposed system or improvement is currently commercially available and replicable, <b>award 5 points.</b>	<b>Points</b>
If the proposed system or improvement is commercially available and replicable and is also provided with a <u>5 year or longer warranty</u> providing the purchaser protection against system degradation or breakdown or component breakdown, <b>award 10 points.</b>	

Attach the documentation to substantiate this score for this category.  
 You have identified this documentation via tab # \_\_\_\_\_  
 Your explanation of points awarded to be entered into the tracking system.

**4 Technical Merit**

Score each paragraph (A) through (J) within this category according to the following rules:  
*The contents of the Technical Report will substantiate the score for Technical Merit.*  
*The Technical Reviewer will determine the final points awarded for this criteria.*

If the description .....	
Has no significant weaknesses and exceeds the requirements of the paragraph	<b>award 100%</b> of the total possible score
Has one or more significant strengths, and meets the requirements of the paragraph.	<b>award 80%</b> , of the total possible score
Meets the basic requirements of the paragraph but also has several weaknesses	<b>award 60%</b> of the total possible score
Is lacking in one or more critical aspects, key issues have not been addressed, but the description demonstrates some merit or strengths.	<b>award 40%</b> of the total possible score
Has serious deficiencies, internal inconsistencies or missing information	<b>award 20%</b> of the total possible score
Has no merit in this area.	<b>award 0%</b> of the total possible score
<b>The total possible score for Technical Merit is 35 points.</b>	

The following page has the technical merit subparagraphs for scoring

**4 Technical Merit - Continued**

The 10 subparagraphs which are the basis for evaluation.	Maximum possible score	% of score awarded	Score Awarded														
(A) <b>Qualifications of the project team.</b> The applicant has described the project team service providers, their professional credentials, and relevant experience. The description supports that the project team service, equipment, and installation providers have the necessary professional credentials, licenses, certifications, or relevant experience to develop the proposed project.	10																
(B) <b>Agreements and Permits.</b> The applicant has described the necessary agreements and permits required for the project and the schedule for securing those agreements and permits.	5																
(C) <b>Energy or Resource Assessment.</b> The applicant has described the quality and availability of a suitable renewable resource, or an assessment of expected energy savings for the proposed system.	10																
(D) <b>Design and Engineering.</b> The applicant has described the design, engineering, and testing needed for the proposed project. The description supports that the system will be designed, engineered, tested so as to meet its intended purpose, ensure public safety, and comply with applicable laws, regulations, agreements, permits, codes, and standards.	30																
(E) <b>Project Development Schedule.</b> The applicant has described the development method including the key project development activities and the proposed schedule for each activity. The description identifies each significant task, its beginning and end, and its relationship to the time needed to initiate and carry the project through to successful completion. The description addresses grantee or borrower project development cash flow requirements.	5																
(F) <b>Project Economic Assessment.</b> The applicant has described the financial performance of the proposed project, including the calculation of simple payback. The description addresses project costs and revenues, such as applicable investment and production incentives and other information to allow the assessment of the project's cost effectiveness.	20																
(G) <b>Equipment Procurement.</b> The applicant has described the availability of the equipment required by the system. The description supports that the required equipment is available, and can be procured and delivered within the proposed project development schedule.	5																
(H) <b>Equipment Installation.</b> The applicant has described the plan for site development and system installation.	5																
(I) <b>Operations and Maintenance.</b> The applicant has described the operations and maintenance requirements of the system necessary for the system to operate as designed over the design life.	5																
(J) <b>Dismantling and Disposal of Project Components.</b> The applicant has described the plan for dismantling and disposing of project components at the end of their useful lives and associated wastes.	5																
<b>Total Possible Score</b>	100	<b>Total Score</b>															
<table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="border: none;"><u>Total Score Awarded</u></td> <td style="border: none; text-align: center;">_____</td> <td style="border: none;">=</td> <td style="border: none; text-align: center;">_____</td> <td style="border: none;">%</td> <td style="border: none;">X</td> <td style="border: none;">35 total possible points =</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="border: none;">Total Possible Score</td> <td style="border: none; text-align: center;">100</td> <td style="border: none;"></td> </tr> </table>				<u>Total Score Awarded</u>	_____	=	_____	%	X	35 total possible points =	Total Possible Score	100					
<u>Total Score Awarded</u>	_____	=	_____	%	X	35 total possible points =											
Total Possible Score	100																

Attach the documentation to substantiate this score for this category.  
 You have identified this documentation via tab # \_\_\_\_\_  
 Your explanation of points awarded to be entered into the tracking system.

**Points Awarded**

**5 Readiness (Grants Only)**

If the applicant has written commitments, prior to the Agency receiving the complete application, from the source(s) confirming commitment of:

50% up to but not including 75% of the matching funds, <b>award 5 points.</b>	<b>Points</b>
75% up to but not including 100% of the matching funds, <b>award 10 points.</b>	
100% of the matching funds, <b>award 15 points.</b>	

Attach the documentation to substantiate this score for this category.

You have identified this documentation via tab # \_\_\_\_\_

Your explanation of points awarded to be entered into the tracking system.

**6 Small Agricultural Producer/Very Small Rural Business**

If the applicant is an agricultural producer producing agricultural products with a gross market value of:

less than \$600,000 in the preceding year, <b>award 5 points</b>	<b>Points</b>
less than \$200,000 in the preceding year,  <b>or</b>	
is a Very Small Rural Business as defined in 4280.102 (a business with less than 15 employees and less than \$1 million in annual receipts) <b>award 10 pts.</b>	

Attach the documentation to substantiate this score for this category.

You have identified this documentation via tab # \_\_\_\_\_

Your explanation of points awarded to be entered into the tracking system.

**7 Simplified Application**

If an applicant is eligible for and uses the simplified application process <b>or</b> if the project has total eligible project costs of \$200,000 or less, <b>award 5 pts.</b>	<b>Points</b>

Attach the documentation to substantiate this score for this category.

You have identified this documentation via tab # \_\_\_\_\_

Your explanation of points awarded to be entered into the tracking system.

**8 Previous Grantees and Borrowers**

If the applicant has not been awarded a grant or loan under this program within the 2 previous Federal Fiscal years, <b>award 5 points.</b>	<b>Points</b>

Attach the documentation to substantiate this score for this category.

You have identified this documentation via tab # \_\_\_\_\_

Your explanation of points awarded to be entered into the tracking system.

**9 Return on Investment (Tech. Reviewer will make final on these points)**

If the proposed project will return the cost of investment in:

Less than 4 years, <b>award 10 points.</b>	<b>Points</b>
4 years up to but not including 8 years, <b>award 4 points.</b>	
8 years up to 11 years, <b>award 2 points.</b>	

Attach the documentation to substantiate this score for this category.

You have identified this documentation via tab # \_\_\_\_\_

Your explanation of points awarded to be entered into the tracking system.

**10 Loan Rate (Guaranteed Loans; 4280.129 (e)):**

If the rate of the loan is below the Prime Rate (as published in the Wall Street Journal) plus 1.5 percent, <b>award 5 points.</b> <b>OR</b>	<b>Points</b>
If the rate of the loan is below the Prime Rate (as published in the Wall Street Journal) plus 1 percent, <b>award 10 points.</b>	

Attach the documentation to substantiate this score for this category.

You have identified this documentation via tab # \_\_\_\_\_

Your explanation of points awarded to be entered into the tracking system.

**11 Grant Amount (Grant Only)**

If the applicant is requesting a grant in the amount of \$20,000 or less, award	<b>Points</b>
<b>10 points</b>	