
NEWS RELEASE

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Office of the Premier
Ministry of Technology, Trade and Economic Development

FURTHER \$25M DEDICATED TO RURAL CLEAN ENERGY PROJECTS

VANCOUVER – The Province will provide a further \$25 million to develop innovative, clean energy projects in British Columbia’s rural communities through the Innovative Clean Energy (ICE) Fund, Premier Gordon Campbell announced today.

“The innovative clean energy projects supported through the ICE Fund are helping communities save energy, save money and reduce their carbon footprint,” said Premier Campbell. “In addition to supporting local energy-efficiency, the new technology developed can be commercialized, helping build B.C.’s green technology sector, and seizing the opportunities of the growing low-carbon economy.”

In July, the provincial government announced the first 15 successful applicants to receive support from the ICE Fund. Approved projects representing bio-energy, geothermal, solar and other alternative energy sources shared nearly \$25 million from the Province, representing about \$80 million in total investment.

“We are concentrating this second round of ICE Fund projects on rural B.C. because we want to maximize the opportunity for residents across the province to benefit from locally-produced clean energy, generated by innovative technologies,” Technology, Trade and Economic Development Minister Ida Chong said. “All British Columbians, including residents in our many smaller communities, want to help achieve a sustainable and prosperous future for our province – so we are ensuring that the ICE Fund supports local economies in the province’s rural regions.”

This second round of ICE Fund projects will see approximately \$25 million in funding to address specific B.C. energy and environmental priorities, as well as accelerating the commercialization of clean energy technologies.

Eligible proposals are welcome from anywhere in British Columbia, but the projects must be situated within the Northern Development Initiative Trust Region, the Southern Interior Development Initiative Trust Region, and North Island-Coast Development Initiative Trust Region. However, all off-grid or unincorporated communities in B.C. are eligible to host ICE Fund projects.

The ICE Fund is open to applications from municipalities, regional districts, school boards, hospitals, First Nations, Not-for-profit societies, post secondary institutions, Crown corporations, public utilities and companies.

Supporting the BC Energy Plan and the government’s goal of electricity self-sufficiency by 2016 and cutting greenhouse gas emissions by 33 per cent by 2020, the ICE Fund will showcase B.C. technologies to the world and drive solutions to climate change.

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For more information on the Province's Innovative Clean Energy (ICE) Fund, including details on community eligibility and application requirements, please visit the website at: http://www.gov.bc.ca/tted/popt/innovative_clean_energy_fund.html/.

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