

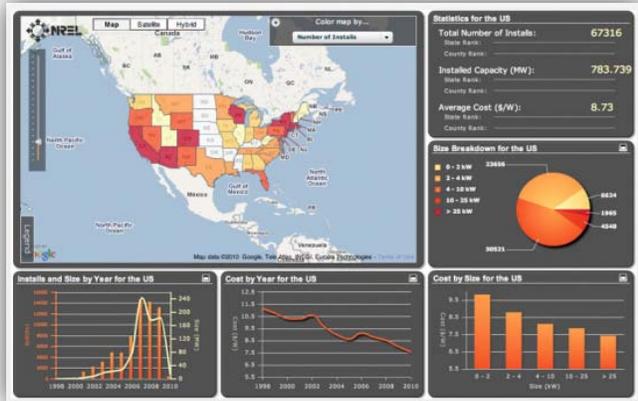
Technical Assistance Request:

Community: Palm Beach County Board of County Commissioners

Request: Assess a project proposal for installing a new solar photovoltaics (PV) system at minimal cost to the county, the terms of the contract, and the financing of solar PV using revenue from renewable energy certificates (REC).

Technical Assistance Provided: NREL renewable energy finance experts reviewed the solar program proposal, as well as the proposed leasing and financing arrangements. NREL prepared a memo on the leasing structure, the financing through RECs and an assessment of REC markets for Florida. Afterwards, NREL staff conducted a conference call with the Palm Beach County team to relay their findings and answer any remaining questions.

Outcome: Using the NREL memo, the county staff determined that the proposed PV project was not a good option for the county. Additionally, the concepts and expertise provided by NREL will be used by Palm Beach County to assess future solar projects and determine the most financially favorable renewable energy projects for the county.



Example of NREL's ability to track solar resources, jobs, and costs across the United States (Source: NREL)

Technical Assistance Request:

Community: Northwest region Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) grant recipients

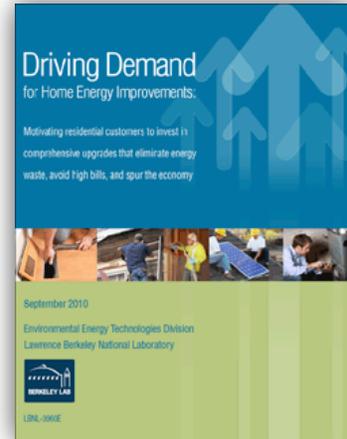
Request: Outline various renewable energy project financing options for municipalities and present these options on a call targeting the Northwest region of the United States.

Technical Assistance Provided: NREL developed a presentation focused on financing options, structures and mechanisms for financing municipal renewable energy projects. The presentation also provided a review and links to online tools that could be used for evaluating the feasibility of renewable energy projects in one's community.

Outcome: NREL's presentation was distributed to EECBG grant recipients in the Northwest region, along with links to online feasibility assessment tools, project financing resources, and renewable energy technology resources. These resources were also made available to a broader audience via the [DOE Solution Center website](#).



The In My Backyard (IMBY) online tool is one example of an online resource for assessing the feasibility of a renewable energy project. (Source: NREL)

Technical Assistance Category:**Finance****Technical Assistance Request:****Community:** State of Utah**Request:** Consultation and assistance in exploring marketing and outreach options for the state's home energy performance program.**Technical Assistance Provided:** Energy analysts at Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory (LBNL) gave several presentations to stakeholder groups on driving the demand toward home energy improvement programs. The presentations focused on strategies to enhance the adoption of comprehensive home energy upgrades. These presentations and other resources for increasing demand for home energy efficiency improvements are available on the [DOE Solution Center website](#) as well as [LBNL's Driving Demand webpage](#).**Outcome:** Utah adopted several of LBNL's suggested strategies for increasing participation in their home performance program, such as working with and learning from contractors, providing sales training for energy efficiency contractors, and tracking impacts to revise and improve outreach.

LBNL's latest report on driving demand for home energy improvements. (Source: LBNL)

Technical Assistance Request:**Community:** Ulster County, New York**Request:** Review and development of a request for proposals (RFP) for an Energy Savings Performance Contract (ESPC) to implement energy efficiency and conservation improvements throughout buildings and facilities the county owns or leases. The county requested NREL's assistance with technical matters, measurement and verification (M&V), risk, and financial considerations to secure an ESPC that met the county's specific needs, budget, and building specifications.**Technical Assistance Provided:** An NREL ESPC specialist reviewed the county's draft RFP and prepared a 22-page detailed contract review. Ulster County incorporated NREL's review into their final RFP for an ESPC. Once the final contract was ready, Ulster County requested a second review from NREL. NREL reviewed the final document, along with an ESPC-detailed energy audit and provided feedback and comments through a group teleconference.**Outcome:** Ulster County incorporated NREL's review and recommendations into their ESPC and made a more informed, educated, and cost-effective decision on the selection of an Energy Services Company (ESCO) to perform the energy efficiency and conservation improvements based on a solid ESPC.