

Oregon's Renewable Portfolio Standard

The renewable portfolio standard is a policy requiring retail electric providers to meet a certain percentage of their annual electricity sales with eligible renewable energy generating resources.

Oregon established the RPS in 2007 with [SB 838](#), providing a requirement for the largest utilities – Portland General Electric and PacifiCorp, and the Eugene Water and Electric Board – to provide 25 percent of retail sales from eligible renewable sources by 2025, with interim goals along the way.

The RPS defines large utilities as those that provide 3 percent or more of total state retail electricity sales. The state's smaller utilities have lower targets, depending on the percent share of the state's total retail electricity load they supplied.

In 2016, Oregon increased its RPS requirements from 25 percent by 2025 to 50 percent by 2040 in [SB 1547](#) (Oregon Clean Electricity and Coal Transition Plan). The 50 percent target only applies to large investor-owned utilities that provide 3 percent or more of total state retail electricity sales. Compliance for consumer-owned utilities, including Eugene Water and Electric Board and small investor-owned utilities supplying less than 3 percent of total state retail electricity sales, was capped at 25 percent by 2025.

Eligible resources for complying with the Oregon RPS include solar, wind, marine hydrokinetic, geothermal, certain biomass sources, some hydropower, and hydrogen gas. The Oregon RPS restricts eligibility in most cases to facilities built after January 1, 1995 to encourage development of new renewable resources. SB 1547 also created a new type of Renewable Energy Certificate. Thermal energy generated at a facility that also generates electricity using RPS-eligible biomass sources is also eligible for the RPS.

You can find much more information about Oregon's RPS compliance and Renewable Energy Certificates at <https://www.oregon.gov/energy/Data-and-Reports/Documents/BER-Chapter-3-Renewable-Energy.pdf>

If you would like to access the two most recent RPS Compliance reports filed with the Public Utility Commission for Portland General Electric and PacifiCorp those may be found at <https://edocs.puc.state.or.us/efdocs/HAA/um2241haa114457.pdf> and <https://edocs.puc.state.or.us/efdocs/HAA/um2239haa172211.pdf>

All information sourced from ODOE's 2020 and 2022 BERs.