

Model resolution by Governing Board of [a single] county to sponsor a Rural Renewable Energy Development Zone

[Resolution no. & standard heading with appropriate indication of purpose]

[Findings (“Whereas” clauses)]

ORS 285C.350 to 285C.370 provide for the designation of “Rural Renewable Energy Development Zones” (hereinafter **RREDZs**) by request of a single city, a single county or multiple counties, to encompass the entire rural area of the jurisdiction(s), for purposes of offering the standard property tax abatement of an enterprise zone to the qualified property of renewable energy projects locating therein.

The County of _____ is seeking designation of an RREDZ by the director of the Oregon Economic and Community Development Department to encourage new business investment, job creation, higher incomes for local residents, greater diversity of economic activity and ...

The proposed RREDZ will include all eligible territory (whether incorporated or not) encompassed by the county line of _____ County.

The designation of an RREDZ does not grant or imply permission to develop land within the county without complying with prevailing zoning, regulatory and permitting processes and restrictions for the applicable jurisdiction; nor does it indicate any intent to modify those processes or restrictions, except as otherwise in accordance with Comprehensive Plans

The County of _____ appreciates the impacts that a designated RREDZ would have and the property tax exemptions that eligible business firms might receive therein, as governed by Oregon Revised Statutes (ORS) Chapter 285C and other provisions of Oregon Law, including but not limited to what is described in Oregon Administrative Rules (OAR) 123-065-8000 through 123-065-8400.

All of the municipal corporations, special service districts and so forth, other than the county government, that receive operating revenue through the levying of *ad valorem* taxes on real and personal property in any area _____ County have been informed and asked to comment on this request for designation.

[The County of _____ does not and has not previously sponsored an RREDZ.] / [Attached (Exhibit A) is a statement about any RREDZ that the County of _____ does or has sponsored, its respective utilization, and the total amount remaining under the prior property exemption limitation.]

[Other findings (e.g., public meetings, other notices, involvement and support; known prospective investments)]

[Conclusions (“Now Therefore ... Be It .. Resolved ...”)]

The County of _____ applies for an RREDZ and requests that the director of the state Economic and Community Development Department order the designation thereof.

The County of _____ sets the amount of real market value (RMV) for qualified property that may be exempt in this RREDZ at \$_____ million, based on the RMV of property for the assessment year at the start of the exemption immediately after property is placed in service. [Defaults to \$250 million if nothing is set forth here]

[_____(Name/title)_____] is authorized to submit the request for the aforementioned RREDZ designation [and to make any substantive or technical change to the application materials, as necessary, after adoption of this resolution].

The County of _____ [commits, within 90 days of designation, to appoint someone] / [appoints _____(Name/title)_____] to serve in the capacity of the local zone manager for the RREDZ.

The County of _____ will comply with the equivalent requirements and provisions of ORS 285C.105 respective to zone sponsor duties under ORS 285C.050 to 285C.250, as they would apply to the implementation of an RREDZ under ORS 285C.350 to 285C.370.

[STANDARD CLOSING, ATTACHMENTS, LIST OF EXHIBITS, COPIES, APPROVALS]

Sample notice to local taxing district about designation of a Rural Renewable Energy Development Zone

[DATE]

[contact person,
district/agency
address, etc.]

Subject: Rural Renewable Energy Development Zone for _____

Dear _____:

This letter would inform you of the exciting opportunity available to our region for improving the local economic base, business climate and long-run community development. [_____ County] is seeking designation of a rural renewable energy development zone, which functions like an enterprise zone throughout county territory for only the eponymous type of development, such as wind power projects, geothermal or other cases where a renewable energy resource is used to generate electricity or produce a biofuel. The designation request will be submitted to the Oregon Economic and Community Development Department for approval.

At its hearing on _____ at _____ [AM/PM], in _____, the [/____ County Commission] is expected to consider a resolution requesting designation.

The proposed area is [countywide] by statute, such that the zone could affect future property tax collections in your district. Therefore, you are being asked to comment on this proposal, either at the hearing or by sending comments to either to me or to _____, by _____.

Please understand, that a rural renewable energy development zone exempts only new property that an eligible, job-creating business might build or install in the zone at some future time. Also, the exemption is temporary, usually lasting only three years, after which time the property induced by these incentives is available for assessment. An extension to four or five years in total is possible in some cases with agreement of the local [county] governing body.

Feel free to contact me by _____.

[Closing, copies, *etc.*]