

# COMMERCIAL SOLAR & WIND ENERGY READY COMMUNITIES



## Application for Certification

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### APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

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Applicants need to submit the following information, either as .pdf or .doc files, to [EnergyReady@oed.in.gov](mailto:EnergyReady@oed.in.gov). Application template guides are available [online](#). The application must address the following:

- ✓ Name of unit of government (must be a county or municipal unit)
- ✓ Contact information (name, title, email, phone number) for each of the following:
  - Primary point of contact for OED to reach out to regarding the application
  - Permit authority for local unit (governing body)
- ✓ Identify request for commercial solar energy ready community, wind energy ready community, or both
- ✓ Details on how the local regulatory standards are not more restrictive than the state default standards:
  - [IC 8-1-41](#) for wind energy certification
  - [IC 8-1-42](#) for commercial solar certification
  - Inclusion of references and citations that link the local and state standards are encouraged.
  - Detailed descriptions and explanations should be provided if the unit's regulations are not a clear 1:1 match with state standards.
- ✓ Details on how the local regulation(s):
  - Includes a clear and transparent process to identify potential project sites
  - Does not unreasonably eliminate portions of the community for projects
    - A map that identifies both the unit boundaries and the regulated area is encouraged
  - Includes a fair review and approval process with a final approval that cannot be revoked
  - Includes a specific plan for how incentive funds granted by OED<sup>1</sup> will be used for economic development within or near the project, or otherwise benefits residents and businesses within or near the project
- ✓ A signed acknowledgement that the community understands certification requires a commitment, of at least 10 years from the project's start date of full commercial operation to:
  - Maintain the standards and procedural framework established in your community's regulations
  - Maintain all applicable zoning, land use, and planning regulations
- ✓ Copy of regulation(s) from the unit of government that adopts commercial solar and/or wind energy development standards.

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### CERTIFICATION PROCESS

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The Indiana Office of Energy Development (OED) accepts and reviews certification applications year-round, allowing communities time to develop their local standards and to apply when they are ready. Once submitted, the process for review and designation is estimated to take an average of 60 to 90 days depending on the complexity of the local unit ordinances and if follow up with applicants is needed prior to designation determination. If changes to the ordinances occur, the designated community must notify OED within 30 days. OED also reserves the right to review a designated community's ordinances at its discretion after initial certification to ensure compliance with certification requirements.

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<sup>1</sup> If available.