



NORTH CAROLINA Solar Center

Advancing Clean Energy for a Sustainable Economy

Renewable Energy Site Assessments | 919-515-9432 | www.ncsc.ncsu.edu

Subsidized Renewable Energy Site Assessments

The North Carolina Solar Center offers reduced cost renewable energy assessments for rural small businesses and agricultural producers in North Carolina, South Carolina, and Virginia. The NC Solar Center will be able to provide this assistance with minimal cost to the end user, \$450-550 depending on travel distance required.

Energy costs greatly impact the economic operation of agricultural enterprises. By identifying potential renewable energy opportunities, farms may reduce their energy consumption, lower the cost of operation, and improve the economic viability of the business.

Renewable Energy Assessments

The Solar Center's renewable energy assessments focus on practical ways companies can incorporate renewable energy into their facilities and existing energy systems. Potential renewable energy technologies include:

Solar Energy

- Photovoltaics (PV)
- Solar Hot Water
- Daylighting
- Transpired Walls

Biomass (e.g. wood, poultry litter, etc.)

Digester Gas (e.g. swine waste, waste water, etc.)

Combined Heat and Power

Wind Generation

Micro-Hydro



Who is Eligible for reduced cost Assessments

The program is open to agricultural producers and rural small businesses. Private entities, including sole proprietorships, partnerships, corporations, co-ops, and electric utilities are eligible. All other non-profit organizations and public entities are not eligible.

Rural Small Businesses

Rural small businesses must meet the definition of "small business" as specified by the Small Business Administration's criteria. Typically this means less than 500 employees and annual revenue less than \$6.5 million. To determine if your business qualifies, please refer to the Small Business Administration's website (www.sba.gov). These business must also be located in a rural area defined by a community of fewer than 50,000 people. See USDA's website for more information (www.usda.gov)

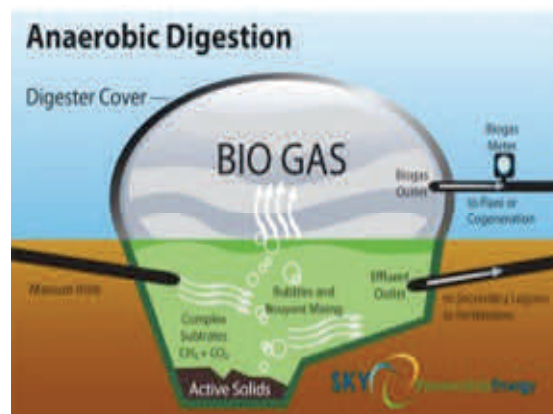
Agricultural Producers

Agricultural producers must directly engage in production of agricultural products and at least 50% of gross income must be from the agriculture business. Agricultural producers are not required to be in rural locations as defined above.

Renewable Energy Assessment Work

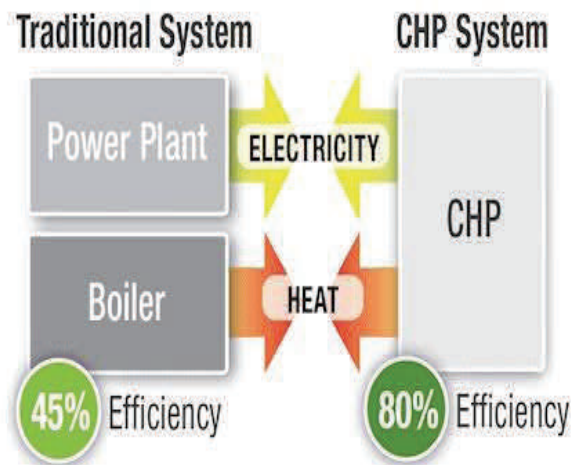
The Solar Center’s Renewable Energy Assessments focus on practical ways to incorporate renewable energy into facilities and existing energy systems.

The assessment includes a single day trip to the project site to inspect the site and collect technical information needed for developing the feasibility study and making appropriate recommendations. A report will be prepared detailing the findings of the site assessment. The report will present an assessment of the potential for implementing Renewable Energy technologies, and will include an introduction to the technologies that are deemed to have potential for success at the facility. Each technology will be analyzed for its technical and economic feasibility.



Renewable Energy Incentives

There are many incentives which intend to make the implementation of renewable and efficiency projects easier. Housed at the North Carolina Solar Center, the Database of State Incentives for Renewables and Efficiency (DSIRE) provides a comprehensive source of information on state, local, utility, and federal incentives that promote renewable energy and energy efficiency. DSIRE provides users with a list of renewable-energy and energy-efficiency incentives available in any U.S. state and at the Federal level. To access the database, or for more information, visit the DSIRE website: www.dsireusa.org



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