

# Energy Policy Coordination in North America

Joint Public Advisory Committee  
Commission for Environmental  
Cooperation

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# Coord of RE Policy: Primary Issues

1. Purpose of Coordination
  - Policy Types & Goals
    - Increasing RE in Energy Mix
    - Greenhouse Gas Reduction
2. Definition of Renewables
3. Eligibility for Policy Treatment
4. Coordination of Accounting Systems

# Purpose of Coordination

- Cross-border imports/exports of power
  - General power sector purchases
  - Imports to meet specific program compliance
- Cross-border trading of RE certificates
  - For Voluntary Market
  - For Compliance Markets
- Cross-border trading of carbon certificates
  - Carbon Allowances and Offsets
  - Carbon reduction benefits

# Definition of Renewable Electricity

A resource is called **renewable** if it is **flow limited** (i.e. limited in the amount of energy available in a unit of time) but can be naturally replenished. Renewable sources of electricity include **solar electric, wind, geothermal, biomass, hydroelectric and tidal power**.

**Non-renewable resources** refer to fuels of which the Earth is endowed with **fixed stocks**; once the stocks are depleted no more will be available on any practical timescale.

# RE Electricity Policies

**Innovative Technologies** → **Emerging Technologies** → **Mature technologies**

e.g. Ocean wave  
& tidal, some  
types solar &  
biomass

e.g. Solar, wind,  
geothermal, biomass

e.g. Hydroelectric

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- Research & Development
  - Demonstration
  - Interconnection requirements & transmission rules
  - Public Education
  - Market & tax incentives
  - Tech Training

- Integrated energy planning
- Market creation – Feed-in or Renewable Targets (RPS), Green Pricing, and Net Metering
- Transmission access & construction
- Tax & other incentive programs
- Tariff & cost sharing
- Job training

- Integrated energy planning
- Appropriate tariffs
- Transmission & interconnection
- Public education
- On-going policy support
- Job Training

# Eligibility of RE Technologies for Energy Policy Treatment

## Program goals

- Overall electricity Development
- Economic Development
- Environmental Benefits
- Specific resource/technology Development (Market Creation)
  - Commercial Maturity of Technology
  - Resource Availability
  - Other Available Incentive Programs

# Eligibility of RE Projects for Carbon Policy Treatment

- Program Goals and Rules
- Is the project “Additional”
- Other Incentive Programs

# Barriers to Resolution

- Market Power and Market Share
- Lack of coordination of policies with like purposes
- Inability to separate policy goals and eligibility from RE definition
- Lack of coordination among accounting systems



# Thank You!

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