

## What is renewable energy?

Renewable energy is derived from resources that are continually available and that do not inflict any material damage on the environment.

## What are the different types of renewable energy?

Solar Energy (PV – Photovoltaic), wind energy, hydroelectric power, Biomass, Geothermal and Ocean Energy are all types of renewable energies. The most common type used in North Carolina is Solar (PV). In fact, North Carolina is ranked 8th in the U.S. for cumulative installed Solar Photovoltaic capacity.

## What are the benefits of renewable energy?

Renewable energy technologies are clean sources of energy with much lower impacts on the environment compared to other sources. Renewable energy will not run out...ever, while more conventional energy sources have very finite supplies. Renewable energy investments are spent on materials and workmanship to build and maintain U.S. facilities rather than exporting those dollars. In addition, you may derive profit from selling electricity to the grid for the life of the project.

## What tax benefits are available for renewable energy?

A given project can receive both federal and state energy credits. The federal business energy investment tax credit (ITC) is 30% of the reliable project cost. This credit is applied the year the project is placed into service, and does not expire until 12/31/2016. The state corporate tax credit is 35% and is taken over a period of 5 years. The state only allows a reduction of up to 50% of any tax liability in a given year; anything in excess of this is carried forward to use in future years. This state credit does not expire until 12/31/2015.