

Qualified Consultant definition

Per page 10535 of the Federal Register dated 3-11-09

An independent, third-party possessing the knowledge, expertise, and experience to perform in an efficient, effective, and authoritative manner the specific task required.

Renewable Energy Development Assistance definition

Per page 10536 of the Federal Register dated 3-11-09

Assistance provided by eligible grantees to assist agricultural producers and rural small businesses to become more energy efficient and to use renewable energy technologies and resources.

This includes provision of client specific reports detailing the

- Current/projected energy usage/needs for the site, and the
- Amount and quality of renewable energy resource(s) available for the subject site facility. (Information regarding residential dwellings at any site will not be included in such reports.)

It also includes client debriefing regarding the report and provision of information regarding the use of appropriate renewable technologies at subject sites.

Renewable Energy Development Assistance Requirements

Per page 10537 of the Federal Register dated 3-11-09

To be eligible for an energy audit or renewable energy development assistance grant, the grant funds for a project must be used by the grant recipient to assist agricultural producers or rural small businesses in one or both of the purposes specified in paragraphs (1) and (2)

(2) Conducting and promoting renewable energy development assistance by providing to agricultural producers and rural small businesses recommendations and information on how to improve the energy efficiency of their operations and to use renewable energy technologies and resources in their operations.

Note: One of the intents of a renewable energy development assistance report could be to identify all energy efficiency measures which could be implemented to appropriately size a renewable energy project (and not waste renewable energy) – as well as identify what types of renewable energy projects could be implemented.

Another intent of the renewable energy development assistance report could be to provide a report which an agricultural producer or small business could use as a part of the technical report for a 9007 renewable energy project application.

Some examples are on the next page.

Example 1:

An agricultural producer or a small business wants to replace an existing conventional heating and cooling system with a geothermal heating and cooling system. In addition to other information in the renewable energy development assistance report, the report could show:

- the computations for the amount of energy replaced by the geothermal system,
- the percentage of replacement,
- the computation for the cost savings between the two systems as well as
- show the computation for simple payback.

All the above computations would assist in the scoring of the 9007 application and help to have a complete technical report.

Example 2:

An agricultural producer or a small business wants to build a new structure and install a geothermal heating and cooling system. In addition to other information in the renewable energy development assistance report, the report could show:

- the computations for the amount of energy replaced by the geothermal system compared to energy usage if a conventional system had been installed,
- the percentage of replacement,
- the computation for the cost savings between the two systems as well as
- show the computation for simple payback.

All the above computations would assist in the scoring of the 9007 application and help to have a complete technical report.

Example 3:

An agricultural producer or a small business wants to construct a small wind turbine for their business operation (no residential use can be included). In addition to other information in the renewable energy development assistance report, the report could show:

- the computations for the annual amount of energy which could be produced by the wind turbine compared to the annual business electrical use before the turbine is constructed,
- the percentage of energy to be replaced by the turbine,
- the computation for the cost savings between the two systems as well as
- show the computation for simple payback.

All the above computations would assist in the scoring of the 9007 application and help to have a complete technical report.