CERTs: Minnesotans Building a Clean Energy Future

The Clean Energy Resource Teams—or CERTs—are a statewide partnership with a shared mission to connect individuals and their communities to the resources they need to identify and implement community-based clean energy projects.

We empower communities and their members to adopt energy conservation, energy efficiency, and renewable energy technologies and practices for their homes, businesses, and local institutions.

What does CERTs do?

- Works to advance projects identified as priorities by our regional teams
- Offers tools for energy efficiency implementation through campaigns
- Helps people learn about and implement solar, wind, and biomass projects
- Shares successes and lessons learned on our MN Energy Stories Blog
- Connects individuals and organizations to clean energy financing tools and incentives
- Provides limited financial assistance to projects through Seed Grants
- Supports local government clean energy work through the Minnesota GreenStep Cities program and beyond
How We Work:

Our approach is one of pragmatism and cooperation. We work via seven regional teams that span Minnesota. These teams are made up of a diverse mix of people: individuals, small business owners, farmers, local utility representatives, members of environmental groups, educators, and local government representatives.

Each team is guided by a local Steering Committee that sets regional priorities, identifies emerging energy issues and opportunities, and directs grant funding.

Get Involved:

- **Learn** through our website, blog, case studies, and videos
- **Connect** with others at our events across Minnesota
- **Act** to complete clean energy projects in your community

Major Outcomes

- Helped Minnesotans save over 109 billion BTUs of energy and avoid $1.7 million in energy costs since 2010
- Awarded over $930,000 in seed grants to more than 230 energy projects since 2006
- Impacted 121,000 people through grants, events, and programs since 2009

CERTs Funders

- CIP R&D, via MN Department of Commerce
- U.S. Department of Energy, via Midwest Renewable Energy Association
- McKnight, Carolyn & Wells Fargo Foundations
- University of Minnesota Extension
- USDA Rural Development EA-REDA

Get Connected