

Frequently Asked Questions – CNG Call For Projects

Are Renewable Natural Gas (RNG) projects eligible?

Yes. Renewable natural gas, also known as sustainable natural gas, is a biogas which has been scrubbed and upgraded to a quality similar to CNG. By upgrading the quality to that of natural gas, it becomes possible to distribute the gas to customers via much like CNG. For this call for projects, proposed RNG projects will compete against all other proposed CNG projects based on the Scoring Criteria.

Are Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) projects eligible?

No. The state has decided to limit this program at this time to CNG and RNG projects only.

Is a certain type of quantitative analysis required to estimate potential air quality and greenhouse gas emissions savings?

No. You can provide a quantitative or a qualitative analysis, and there is no a specific formula or guidelines for the quantitative analysis. We encourage you to provide as much information as you have. You can check with your local jurisdiction to see if they have emission modeling (such as MOVES) information that would be relevant, but a modeling analysis is not necessary.

Does the fueling station have to be available to public?

No. The fueling station can be “behind the fence” and still provide a public benefit. CMAQ requires that all CMAQ-funded projects provide a public benefit. As indicated on the RFP, there are many ways that a fueling station can provide indirect benefits to the public (e.g., air quality benefits). However, a fueling station that is open to the public has a direct benefit and will most likely score higher.

Can the Oregon Department of Energy (ODOE) tax credit be used as match for the federal CMAQ grant?

Applicants can receive both CMAQ grant and state tax credits. However, applicants will have to incur the cost of the project and use the state tax credit to subsequently recoup a portion of their investment that is not covered by the CMAQ grant. Therefore the state tax credit can be applied towards the same project, but it may not be used for the actual match.

Can real estate be used as match for the CMAQ grant?

Under certain specific conditions, real estate obtained for the purpose of the project can be credited towards the required match. It depends on how the property was acquired, the type of funds used for the acquisition, the area actually needed for the CNG installation, and other factors. You need to include [ODOT Donation/Contribution form](#) with your application.

Will you extend the deadline for those submitting RNG projects?

No. However, if there is a reason that you won't be able to complete certain sections of the application, you may make a request to provide supplemental information after the application deadline.

What contracting and procurement rules apply to my project if it qualifies as “non-construction” or “non-highway construction”?

Contracting and procurement would fall under ORS 279B.220, .225, .230, .235, .270.

The full text of the statute can be found at:

https://www.oregonlegislature.gov/bills_laws/lawsstatutes/2013ors279B.html