



STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE
APPLICATION FOR
CLEAN ENERGY CREDIT

Form with fields for Name(s) As Shown On Tax Return, Mailing Address, Physical Address, SSN or FEIN, Contact Person, Contact Person's Title, Telephone Number, Alternate Telephone Number, and Email.

1. Did the taxpayer create at least one full-time job that pays at least 125% of this state's average annual median wage, as defined by the Department of Commerce, for every \$1 million of capital investment qualifying for credit? Yes No

2. In which county did the taxpayer invest in new qualifying plant and equipment during the previous calendar year? County Name Tier Designation

3. During the calendar year, the taxpayer manufactured clean energy systems or components in South Carolina for (Check all that apply.): energy efficiency, solar, wind, geothermal, other (Specify in the space provided below.)

4. During the tax year, did the taxpayer fabricate, produce or manufacture raw or unprepared materials into usable products, imparting new forms, qualities, properties, and combinations, not including generating electricity for off-site consumption? Yes No

5. An eligible business or corporation is entitled to a nonrefundable income tax credit of 10% of the cost of the company's total qualifying investments in plant and equipment in this State for clean energy operations. The credit is allowed for up to 60 months beginning with the first tax year for which the business or corporation is eligible to receive the credit. No credit is allowed unless the business or corporation becomes eligible to receive the credit in a tax year ending on or before December 31, 2020.

6. How much did the taxpayer invest in new qualifying plant and equipment in one county during the previous calendar year? Land: \$ Buildings: \$ Machinery: \$ Fixtures: \$ Total: \$

7. Of the total above, these amounts were invested during the calendar year for qualifying property:

Acquiring	\$ _____
Leasing	\$ _____
Improving	\$ _____
Total	\$ _____

8. Of the total above, these investments were made during the year with respect to electricity from clean energy sources:

Generation	\$ _____
Storage	\$ _____
Testing	\$ _____
R&D	\$ _____
Transmission	\$ _____
Distribution	\$ _____
Total	\$ _____

For the questions above, attach documentation such as invoices, paid receipts, and spreadsheets. Be as specific as possible and attach additional pages if necessary. The S.C. Department of Revenue and S.C. Energy Office maintain the right to schedule a site visit prior to approval.

I declare that the information included in this credit application is true, correct, and complete, to the best of my knowledge and belief.

_____	_____
Date	Signature of Taxpayer
	_____
	Printed Name of Taxpayer or Officer
	_____
	Title, If Applicable

**Apply through one of the following methods:**

- |  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
| <b>1) Email a scanned PDF of TC-54A to<br/>taxtech@sctax.org</b> | <b>2) Express Mail:<br/>SC Department of Revenue<br/>Research and Forms Development<br/>300A Outlet Pointe Blvd<br/>Columbia, SC 29210</b> | <b>3) Regular Mail:<br/>SC Department of Revenue<br/>Research and Forms Development<br/>Columbia, SC 29214-0019</b> |
|--|--|---|

**INSTRUCTIONS**

**Requirement to apply to the Department of Revenue for credit**

For tax years beginning after 2013, each taxpayer must submit a **TC-54A Application for Clean Energy Credit** to the Department of Revenue **by January 31** for qualifying expenses incurred in the previous calendar year. By March 1, the Department of Revenue will notify the taxpayer whether the submitted expenditures qualify for credit and indicate the amount of credit allocated to the taxpayer. The taxpayer may claim the credit for the tax year that includes December 31st of the previous calendar year.

**General instructions**

The General Assembly has enacted the "South Carolina Clean Energy Tax Incentive Program" to encourage business investment that will produce high quality employment opportunities and enhance the State's position as a center for production and use of clean energy products. The Program provides tax incentives to companies in the solar, wind, geothermal and other clean energy industries that are expanding or locating in South Carolina.

An eligible business or corporation is entitled to a nonrefundable income tax credit of 10% of the cost of the company's total qualifying investments in plant and equipment in this State for clean energy operations. The credit is allowed for up to 60 months beginning with the first tax year for which the business or corporation is eligible to receive the credit. No credit is allowed unless the business or corporation becomes eligible to receive the credit in a tax year ending on or before December 31, 2020.

To be eligible for the credit, the business or corporation must:

- (1)** manufacture clean energy systems or components in South Carolina for solar, wind, geothermal or other clean energy uses;

(2) invest in new qualifying plant and equipment:

- at least \$50 million in a Tier IV county,
- at least \$100 million in a Tier III county,
- at least \$150 million in a Tier II county, and
- at least \$200 million in a Tier I county

according to the county designation for new jobs credits (available at [www.dor.sc.gov](http://www.dor.sc.gov)) for the year the credit is claimed; and

(3) have created at least one full-time job that pays at least 125% of this state's average annual median wage, as defined by the Department of Commerce, for every \$1 million of capital investment qualifying for credit.

The Department of Revenue will determine the proof necessary to meet the manufacturing requirements in (1) and investment requirements in (2). Expenditures qualifying for credit must be certified by the Department of Revenue. The Department will consult with the Department of Commerce, the State Energy Office, or any other appropriate state and federal officials on standards for certification.

The Department of Commerce will certify to the Department of Revenue that the taxpayer has met the job creation requirements in (3).

A taxpayer may separately qualify for new facilities in separate locations or for separate expansions of existing facilities located in this State.

A taxpayer's total credit for all expenditures may not exceed \$500,000 for any year or \$5 million for all years. Unused credits may be carried forward for 15 years after the tax year in which a qualified expenditure was made.

The credit is in lieu of any other applicable income tax credits or abatements allowed by State law. To the extent the credits or abatements conflict or overlap, the taxpayer must select among conflicting or overlapping credits and abatements in the manner prescribed by the Department of Revenue.

#### **Requirement to notify the Department of Revenue**

For tax credits awarded after tax year 2014, each taxpayer must notify the Department of Revenue, in writing, of its intention to claim the credit. The taxpayer may send the notification by email to [taxtech@sctax.org](mailto:taxtech@sctax.org), by regular mail to:

**SC Department of Revenue  
Research and Forms Development  
Columbia, SC 29214-0019**

or by express mail to:

**SC Department of Revenue  
Research and Forms Development  
300A Outlet Pointe Blvd  
Columbia, SC 29210**

#### **Definitions**

“**Capital investment**” means an expenditure to acquire, lease, or improve property that is used in operating a business, including land, buildings, machinery, and fixtures.

“**Manufacturing**” means fabricating, producing, or manufacturing raw or unprepared materials into usable products, imparting new forms, qualities, properties, and combinations. Manufacturing does not include generating electricity for off-site consumption.

“**Qualifying investment**” means investment in land, buildings, machinery, and fixtures for expansion of an existing facility or establishment of a new facility in this State. Qualifying investment does not include relocating an existing facility in this State to another location in this State without additional capital investment.

“**Clean energy operations**” are limited to manufacturers of systems or components that are used or useful in manufacturing or operation of clean energy equipment for the generation, storage, testing and research and development, and transmission or distribution of electricity from clean energy sources, including specialized packaging for the clean energy equipment manufactured at the facility. A clean energy operation does not include generating electricity for off-site consumption.

#### **Social Security Privacy Act Disclosure**

It is mandatory that you provide your social security number on this tax form if you are an individual taxpayer. 42 U.S.C. 405(c)(2)(C)(i) permits a state to use an individual's social security number as means of identification in administration of any tax. SC Regulation 117-201 mandates that any person required to make a return to the SC Department of Revenue shall provide identifying numbers, as prescribed, for securing proper identification. Your social security number is used for identification purposes.

#### **The Family Privacy Protection Act**

Under the Family Privacy Protection Act, the collection of personal information from citizens by the Department of Revenue is limited to the information necessary for the Department to fulfill its statutory duties. In most instances, once this information is collected by the Department, it is protected by law from public disclosure. In those situations where public disclosure is not prohibited, the Family Privacy Protection Act prevents such information from being used by third parties for commercial solicitation purposes.