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Roseburg Urban Sanitary Authority Receives Two Best of the Best Awards from the Oregon Association of Clean Water Agencies

In collaboration with Ameresco, RUSA and General Manager Jim Baird recognized for a multi-facility renewable energy and resilience initiative developed to strengthen infrastructure reliability and community resilience

FRAMINGHAM, MA and ROSEBURG, OR, July 21, 2026 – [Ameresco, Inc.](#) (NYSE: AMRC), a leading energy infrastructure company delivering integrated solutions to create reliable power and modernize infrastructure and the [Roseburg Urban Sanitary Authority \(RUSA\)](#) today announced that RUSA has received two 2026 Best of the Best Awards, presented by the [Oregon Association of Clean Water Agencies \(ACWA\)](#) at its July 17 ceremony in Bend, Oregon. RUSA received the Outstanding Member Agency Award for Innovation in Environmental Management in recognition of its renewable energy and resiliency initiative developed in collaboration with Ameresco. RUSA General Manager Jim Baird also received the Outstanding Individual Award for Innovation in Environmental Management in recognition of his leadership on the initiative and his broader contributions to the water and wastewater profession.

Ameresco - RUSA Initiative Strengthens Resilience and Reliability

The recognized initiative is a comprehensive, multi-facility renewable energy and resilience program combining solar photovoltaic (PV) generation and a battery energy storage system (BESS) at RUSA's Main Office with planned solar PV projects at its Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) and Natural Treatment System (NTS). Together, the projects are expected to improve operational reliability, reduce long-term costs, and strengthen community resilience during grid disruptions.

Key elements and benefits of the initiative include:

- Once all three projects are complete, the initiative is expected to generate **approximately 1.8 gWh of renewable electricity annually**, offsetting approximately 100% of electrical consumption at the Main Office, 44% at the WWTP, and 64% at the NTS
- **Innovative floating solar technology at the NTS**, converting an existing treatment pond into a source of renewable energy without requiring new land

A layered funding strategy developed through RUSA's partnership with Ameresco that combines grant funding from the Oregon Department of Energy's Community Renewable



Energy Grant Program (C-REP), financing through the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality's Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF), Energy Trust of Oregon incentives for eligible project components, and federal investment tax credits to accelerate implementation while minimizing costs to RUSA and its ratepayers. Advancing the initiative has required close coordination among RUSA, Ameresco, and agency partners. The project team has worked with Oregon DEQ to align project design, environmental review, procurement, and construction requirements with CWSRF financing, while also coordinating C-REP grant requirements, Energy Trust of Oregon incentives, and federal tax-credit requirements across the phased initiative.

"We congratulate RUSA and Jim Baird on this well-deserved recognition," said Louis Maltezos, Co-President of Ameresco. "Their leadership and commitment to advancing resilient energy infrastructure demonstrate the meaningful impact these projects can have on communities. We are proud to have partnered with them on this initiative."

Jim Baird's Leadership in Renewable Energy

Baird has served as RUSA's General Manager for nine years and has worked in the Roseburg area's water and wastewater field since 1991. He first evaluated renewable energy for the agency in 2018, and though the timing wasn't right to move forward, Baird continued pursuing operational improvements. That opportunity came in 2023, when Baird led RUSA into a new collaboration with Ameresco through an Energy Savings Performance Contract (ESPC), resulting in the solar and BESS initiative recognized today.

"I'm proud of this recognition because it reflects the years of work it has taken to build real resilience into how we serve this community," said Jim Baird, General Manager of RUSA. "Modernizing our infrastructure means we can keep essential systems running when it matters most, during emergencies and beyond, and I'm grateful to our team for making this possible, and to Ameresco for their partnership along the way."

To learn more about the RUSA solar PV project, visit www.ameresco.com/portfolio-item/roseburg-urban-sanitary-authority-solar-pv-project/.

About Ameresco, Inc.

Ameresco, Inc. (NYSE: AMRC) is a leading energy infrastructure company delivering integrated solutions to create reliable power and modernize infrastructure. The company's *Power Infrastructure* business integrates energy resources across behind-the-meter and utility-scale systems. Its *Buildings & Public Infrastructure* business modernizes the built environment with smart, connected solutions that optimize performance and enhance resilience. Ameresco is a trusted full lifecycle partner, delivering over \$15 billion in solutions and contracting over 5 GW of energy resources since its founding in 2000. Headquartered in Massachusetts, Ameresco serves public and private sector customers across North America and Europe. Learn more at www.ameresco.com.

About Roseburg Urban Sanitary Authority

Roseburg Urban Sanitary Authority (RUSA) is a public utility dedicated to the management and treatment of wastewater for the City of Roseburg and the outlying area included in the Urban



Growth Boundary. Established to protect public health and the environment, RUSA operates a Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) and a Natural Treatment System (NTS), focusing on sustainable water management practices. Committed to innovation and community welfare, RUSA continuously strives to implement renewable energy solutions and infrastructure upgrades, positioning itself as a leader in environmentally responsible wastewater management. RUSA's mission is to provide high-quality services while promoting resource conservation and reducing the environmental impact of its operations.

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META DESCRIPTION

Meta Title:

RUSA and Jim Baird Win Two 2026 ACWA Innovation Awards (54/60 characters)

Meta Description:

The Oregon Association of Clean Water Agencies honors RUSA and GM Jim Baird for a solar and battery storage project built with Ameresco to boost resilience. (156/160 characters)

RUSA and GM Jim Baird earn two Oregon ACWA awards for a solar and battery storage initiative developed with Ameresco to strengthen resilience

FAQ

Why did Roseburg Urban Sanitary Authority (RUSA)'s renewable energy and resiliency initiative with Ameresco receive 2026 ACWA innovation awards in Oregon?

Roseburg Urban Sanitary Authority (RUSA) received the 2026 Outstanding Member Agency Award for Innovation in Environmental Management from the Oregon Association of Clean Water Agencies (ACWA) for its renewable energy and resiliency initiative developed with Ameresco. The initiative was recognized for advancing renewable energy, operational reliability, and community resilience through solar PV and battery energy storage technologies.

How will Roseburg Urban Sanitary Authority (RUSA)'s renewable energy and resiliency initiative with Ameresco benefit the Roseburg, Oregon community?

RUSA's renewable energy and resiliency initiative with Ameresco is designed to strengthen wastewater infrastructure reliability, improve operational resilience, and help essential services remain operational during grid disruptions. The initiative supports long-term infrastructure performance while enhancing community resilience.



How will utility customers and ratepayers benefit from the Ameresco renewable energy initiative at Roseburg Urban Sanitary Authority?

RUSA's renewable energy and resiliency initiative with Ameresco is expected to improve operational reliability and reduce long-term energy costs. The project funding strategy combines grants, incentives, financing, and tax credits to accelerate implementation while minimizing costs to RUSA and its ratepayers.

What renewable energy technologies is Ameresco deploying for Roseburg Urban Sanitary Authority (RUSA) in Roseburg, Oregon?

Ameresco developed a multi-facility renewable energy and resiliency initiative for RUSA that includes solar photovoltaic (PV) generation, a battery energy storage system (BESS), and planned solar PV projects at the Wastewater Treatment Plant and Natural Treatment System. The initiative also incorporates floating solar technology at the Natural Treatment System.

What is the battery energy storage system (BESS) in the Ameresco and RUSA renewable energy and resiliency initiative?

Ameresco's battery energy storage system (BESS) at RUSA's Main Office is part of a broader renewable energy and resiliency initiative. The BESS works alongside solar PV generation to improve operational reliability and strengthen resilience during grid disruptions.

How does the Ameresco solar PV and battery storage initiative improve wastewater infrastructure resilience for RUSA in Oregon?

The Ameresco-RUSA renewable energy and resiliency initiative combines solar PV generation and battery energy storage across multiple facilities to strengthen infrastructure reliability. The initiative is designed to help maintain critical wastewater operations during power interruptions while improving overall community resilience.

How does the Ameresco renewable energy initiative support sustainability and operational efficiency at Roseburg Urban Sanitary Authority?

The Ameresco-RUSA renewable energy and resiliency initiative is expected to generate approximately 1.8 GWh of renewable electricity annually and offset approximately 100% of Main Office electricity consumption, 44% at the Wastewater Treatment Plant, and 64% at the Natural Treatment System. These outcomes support renewable energy generation, operational efficiency, and long-term sustainability goals.



Why is the Ameresco and Roseburg Urban Sanitary Authority (RUSA) renewable energy and resiliency initiative important for wastewater utilities in Oregon?

The Ameresco-RUSA renewable energy and resiliency initiative demonstrates how wastewater utilities can use solar PV, battery energy storage, floating solar technology, and layered funding strategies to strengthen operational reliability and community resilience. Its recognition by ACWA highlights its value as an innovative approach to modernizing wastewater infrastructure in Oregon.