

Energy Efficiency: Microhydro Technologies

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We have attached a couple of fairly comprehensive reports on micro-hydro systems. The first is a 2004 publication from Natural Resources Canada called “Micro-Hydro Systems: A Buyer’s Guide.” It has a lot of good discussion on economics, choosing the right system, citing, and O&M and can be found at:

<http://www.builditsolar.com/Projects/Hydro/CanadaMicroHydroGuide.pdf>.

We also have attached a BC Hydro publication called “Handbook for Developing Micro Hydro in British Columbia.” Obviously a lot of the regulatory details will be different for you, but the publication does offer some valuable insights from a utility’s prospective, including interconnection requirements, more O&M information, and long-term costs:

http://www.energyalternatives.ca/PDF/BC%20Hydro_small_hydro_handbook.pdf.

If you would like to conduct some sophisticated modeling, we recommend RETScreen (<http://www.retscren.net/ang/home.php>), a powerful software suite offered by the Canadian government that calculates energy production, life-cycle costs and greenhouse gas emission reductions for various types of renewable technologies, including small hydro.

In addition, there are a few other resources you might find helpful:

Micro Hydro suppliers in Georgia

<http://energy.sourceguides.com/businesses/byGeo/US/byP/hydro/mHG/byS/GA/GA.shtml>

Finding a Micro Hydro Contractor

http://energybible.com/water_energy/finding_contractor.html

Micro Hydro suppliers in Georgia

<http://www.gasolar.us/GAsuppliers.html>

Micro Hydro Manufacturer

<http://www.hydro-turbines.com/>