



December 2015

Sustainable energy enews



Our investments are making a difference

Funding Available for Sustainable Energy Projects

The WPPSEF is anticipating providing support to clean energy projects that benefit the West Penn Power ratepayers in Pennsylvania through the Request for Proposals process. Funding is focused in four areas:



APPLY NOW

1. Clean heat and power technologies
2. Smart energy use
3. Clean energy manufacturing in Pennsylvania
4. Community based sustainable energy planning

WPPSEF financing terms are flexible and developed to meet the project needs while assessing project risk. In addition, a limited number of grants will be considered for non-profits.

Power & Foresight

CELEBRATING 15 YEARS OF SUSTAINABLE ENERGY

2015 was a very significant year for the sustainable energy community. Throughout the year, WPPSEF worked with the Pennsylvania sustainable energy community to plan a series of events called "Power & Foresight". These events shined a spotlight on the leaders who are making a difference and who will light the way for the next generation.

WPPSEF wishes to thank all who attended our many events as we traveled across the Commonwealth to learn from the experts. Power & Foresight hosted events at:

- **Geisinger Healthcare System** in Danville, PA, the site of the inaugural event for its commitment to environmental stewardship and its advocacy on why clean energy is important to our health
- **Energypath**, an initiative of The Sustainable Energy Fund in Allentown and the region's largest sustainable energy event held at the University of Scranton
- **Phipps Conservatory and Botanical Gardens** in Pittsburgh and its Center for Sustainable Landscapes, a living building and one of Earth's greenest buildings
- **Community Energy's** 6 MW Keystone Solar Project in Lancaster, the largest customer-driven utility scale solar project in Pennsylvania
- **The Pennsylvania State University** to see how they are meeting their energy needs while addressing their sustainability and climate goals
- **Elk Country Visitor Center** and the new Elk Country Campus Outdoor Building built to LEED standards and heated with a high-efficiency biomass boiler

Each one of these leaders demonstrates Power & Foresight in the way they produce and manage their energy. These workshops were free and provided a behind the scenes tour and a chance for attendees to speak to, and learn from, the experts who are achieving results.

On October 7, Power & Foresight held a homecoming for the pioneers of the industry and the future energy champions in State College, PA. The sustainable energy community came together as a group, with the purpose of igniting conversations, reconnecting with old friends, and setting a course for the future of clean energy in Pennsylvania. Attendees had the opportunity to connect with the crowd that funds sustainable energy, to learn how businesses are moving the markets and the opportunity to see what the sustainable energy landscape looked like fifteen years ago and how far we have come.

What's Next?



Coming January 2016

Who are we?

The West Penn Power Sustainable Energy Fund (WPPSEF) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that invests in the deployment of sustainable energy technologies that benefit the West Penn Power ratepayers in Pennsylvania.

~ We are seeking a diversified portfolio of clean energy investments ~



Visit our website

What do we do?

- Deployment of sustainable and clean energy technologies;
- Deployment of energy efficiency and conservation technologies; and
- Facilitating economic development, environmental betterment, and public education as they relate to sustainable energy deployment in the WPP service region.



Take an online tour

Quick Links

PennSEF - Pennsylvania Sustainable Energy Finance Program

Energy Innovation Center

PA Environment Digest

ERG: Alternative Energy Report



All proceeds from the event benefited Women In Need, a nonprofit organization working to obtain safety for victims of violence. WPPSEF provided Women In Need a \$100,000 grant to support the building of their new LEED shelter in Chambersburg, PA and the event itself raised another \$3,932.50.

But our work is not done. We are planning our 2016 activities. We will take a break over the snowy months and pick up where we left off with plenty of new and exciting events in the Spring. Stay tuned!



Projects

Women In Need (WIN) is getting ready to move into a new 11,070 square foot shelter with the support of a grant from WPPSEF. The shelter was designed to meet LEED Gold standards. The grant, in the amount of \$100,000 will be used to co-fund up to 50% of the acquisition and installation of four (4) ENE24 evacuated tube solar thermal panels, a heat recovery ventilator, and a variable refrigeration volume (VRV) heating/ cooling system. This new building will help shelter victims of domestic violence and provide space for WIN's administration staff. [Read More.](#)



Gregg Township received a grant from WPPSEF to install a Viessmann flat panel solar hot water system to preheat domestic water utilized by the Old Gregg School Community and Recreation Center in Spring Mills. The Old Gregg School serves the people of Penns Valley and surrounding areas by providing a safe and vibrant location for recreation, education, business and wellness opportunities while preserving the unique heritage and character of their community. [Read More.](#)



The Biomass Thermal Energy Council (BTEC) has released a draft of the first thermal efficiency test method designed specifically for commercial-sized boilers that utilize solid biomass as a fuel stock (including pellets, chips, briquettes, and cordwood). The project responds to concerns that a lack of reasonable testing standards for biomass systems can make it difficult for specifiers to provide the owner of a biomass system with a clear distinction between the performance of high efficiency, low-emission equipment and less satisfactory performers. The project has already garnered \$175,000 in committed support from the U.S. Endowment for Forestry and Communities, WPPSEF and the Massachusetts Department of Energy Resources. [Read More.](#)



Kudos

The Pennsylvania Environmental Council (PEC), a statewide leader in environment and conservation, announced that John J. Walliser will assume the position of Senior Vice President for Legal and Government Affairs. Having been with PEC since 1997, Walliser oversees all of PEC's policy work, and manages legal and governance issues for the organization. A well-respected voice in Harrisburg, Walliser provides a crucial voice as PEC advocates for advances on issues including longwall mining, implementation of the Clean Power Plan, methane emissions, and water quality standards. Walliser also currently serves on the Board of Directors for WPPSEF.



Congratulations to The Keystone Energy Efficiency Alliance (KEEA) on their 200+ attendance at this year's fifth annual KEEA Energy Efficiency Conference. The KEEA Conference 2015 connected energy efficiency and advanced energy experts involved in utility program planning, energy policy, customer engagement, and emerging energy technology. WPPSEF was proud to be a sponsor of this important energy event. [See 2015 conference slides.](#)



Renew Financial announced on October 7 that it has acquired Pennsylvania-based AFC First Financial Corporation, one of the nation's premier lenders specializing in the energy efficiency home improvement market. AFC First has originated more than \$500 million in energy efficiency home improvement loans over the last ten years and currently services a portfolio of more than \$100 million in loans. [Read More.](#)



Breaking News



Be the first to know! If you want the most up-to-date information on sustainable energy investments in Pennsylvania, "Like Us" on [Facebook](#) and check us out on our [website](#). It is amazing what can happen among friends.