



December 2014

# Sustainable energy eNews

Our investments are making a difference

## Pennsylvania Sustainable Energy Finance Program

The Pennsylvania Treasury Department has partnered with the Foundation for Renewable Energy and Environment (FREE), with financial support from the West Penn Power Sustainable Energy Fund, to launch an innovative financing program to help public, non-profit organizations make advanced energy improvements.

The Sustainable Energy Finance Program (PennSEF) will provide technical and legal assistance, as well as low-cost capital, for energy improvement projects by municipalities, universities, schools and hospitals - the so-called "MUSH" sector (including counties and governmental agencies).

[Learn more about the PennSEF program in detail](#)

[Pennsylvania Sustainable Energy Finance Program \(PennSEF\) website](#)

### Apply for WPPSEF Funding

**Proposals Due January 29, 2015 by 4:00 p.m (EST)** - Time is running out to submit your clean energy project to WPPSEF for possible funding. Funding is focused in three areas: Clean heat and power technologies, smart energy use and clean energy manufacturing in Pennsylvania. Applying is easy. All of the proposal guidelines are included in the funding application available online.

[Download the application.](#)

DAYS LEFT

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### Stories

**Eastern Westmoreland Career & Technology Center (EWCTC)** located in Latrobe, PA dedicated a new STEM Outdoor Learning Center with help from WPPSEF. Phase I of the center includes a 20' vertical axis wind turbine from WindStax, a weather station, a solar array and an open pavilion with a sheltered classroom for

instructional lessons. This center was designed and built by EWCTC students. [Read Story.](#)



**Janet Weis Children's Hospital** at the Geisinger Medical Center in Danville, PA received a \$100,000 grant from WPPSEF to add a 38 kW solar array to the children's hospital and an energy monitor in the hospital lobby. Installation is scheduled to begin in December. Geisinger is committed to delivering excellent patient care while minimizing their impact on the environment.



**The Western Pennsylvania School for the Deaf** celebrated the opening of a new 30,000 square foot residence hall funded in part with a grant from the WPPSEF. The \$100,000 grant will cover a portion of the costs to purchase and install energy efficient systems including a Geo-thermal heating and cooling system for the building. [Read Story.](#)



**Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission** worked with WPPSEF to fund an educational display on wind power at the Somerset exits (both east and west bound). These exits overlook the Somerset Wind Farm constructed in 2001. This farm has six windmills that produce enough clean electricity to meet the average consumption of 2,500 homes. Today's PA Turnpike, now 514 miles long, carries 156.2 million vehicles per year.



#### 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 throughout the West Penn Power (WPP) service region 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 for the Power of 32](#)

[Mascaro Center Engineering Sustainability 2015](#)

[Energypath 2015](#)

[Energy Innovation Center](#)

[Keystone Home Energy Loan Program](#)

[PA Environment Digest](#)

[ERG: Alternative Energy Report](#)



## Kudos

**Rob Hosken of Building Performance Architecture** and WPPSEF board member will share his experience as a building energy consultant using PHIUS+ rating for diverse building types throughout Pittsburgh on December 9. If you are new to the Passive House standard or already engaged in the building industry but you want to dig deeper and achieve more energy savings, join Green Building Alliance and Passive House Western Pennsylvania at the PHWPA : Passive House Rating and Building Diagnostics for Multifamily, Commercial, and Institutional Buildings on December 9 from 5:30 pm - 7:00 pm.

**Learn more or register for the event.**

**Mike Palko (Biomass Energy Specialist at PA DCNR Bureau of Forestry),**

is retiring in December after 30 years of service to Pennsylvania. WPPSEF would like to recognize Mike for his steadfast and passionate commitment to the use of woody biomass from sustainable forest operations for community-scale clean heat and power applications. Mike believes the sustainable use of biomass to produce thermal energy increases our nation's energy independence, creates jobs, retains revenues locally, and provides for wildlife habitat and numerous environmental benefits. Although Mike is formally retiring, we know that Mike will still be active in the forestry and biomass industries. We look forward to working with him, albeit in a different capacity, in future years. We wish Mike the very best.



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## Breaking News



**Do you want to keep up with WPPSEF?** If you want the most up-to-date information on sustainable energy investments in Pennsylvania, "Like Us" on [Facebook](#) and check us out at our new [website](#). It is amazing what can happen among friends.



**WPPSEF**  
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Sustainable energy news is brought to you by the West Penn Power Sustainable Energy Fund. We want to hear from you. Questions or comments about this publication can be sent to [wppsef@ems.psu.edu](mailto:wppsef@ems.psu.edu).

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