



August 2015

Sustainable energy eNews

Our investments are making a difference



October 7, 2015 - SAVE THIS DATE - Registration now open!

2015 is the year of **Power & Foresight**. A year to celebrate a 15-year milestone, reflect on what we started, re-imagine where we are going, and champion the dreamers and visionaries among us - those who displayed critical foresight in envisioning a more sustainable energy future in Pennsylvania.

Take a day and reconnect. Mark your calendars for October 7, 2015 and plan to join us in State College for this major event. It is surely one that you'll not want to miss. Optional energy tours being offered on October 8th.

October 7, 2015
State College, PA
Penn Stater Conference Center Hotel
Register now!

August Spotlight: Behind the Scenes at a Living Building - Energy Workshop & Tour

Phipps Conservatory and Botanical Gardens is a leader in the green building movement. The Phipps team has taken sustainability excellence to the next level by going beyond its buildings to lead by example, initiating a holistic approach to green all of its operations and programs. The organization demonstrates Power & Foresight in achieving the Living Building Challenge™ for its Center for Sustainable Landscapes (CSL), a facility that houses groundbreaking sustainability research and science education programs, and serves as a key part of the public garden's immersive visitor experience. In producing all of its own renewable energy, and treating and reusing all water captured on site, the CSL



demonstrates the benefits of humanity living in harmony with nature. The CSL is the first and only project to simultaneously attain the planet's highest sustainable building certifications:

- Living Building Challenge, the world's most rigorous green building standard
- LEED Platinum - tied for the highest points awarded under version 2.2
- First and only Four Stars Sustainable SITES Initiative (SITES) for landscapes project (pilot)
- First and only WELL Building Platinum project (pilot)

Tour a living building. August 18, 2015 - Phipps Conservatory and Botanical Garden's Center for Sustainable Landscapes, Pittsburgh, PA

Register now! (limited seating available)

Power & Foresight Celebration

Power & Foresight

CELEBRATING 15 YEARS OF SUSTAINABLE ENERGY

October 7, 2015
Penn Stater Conference Center Hotel

SAVE THIS DATE. Join us in celebrating the 15-year anniversary of the accomplishments of the sustainable energy community. And see where we go from here.

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](#)

[Keystone Home Energy Loan Program](#)

[PA Environment Digest](#)

[ERG: Alternative Energy Report](#)



Stories

Eastern Westmoreland Career and Technology Center in Greensburg received a \$37,318 grant from WPPSEF for Phase II of their new S.T.E.M. (Science Technology Engineering and Mathematics) Outdoor Learning Center. The EWCTC received a grant from WPPSEF to help with the construction of Phase I of the STEM Outdoor Learning Center providing EWCTC's students with industry level work experiences. The STEM Outdoor Learning Center includes a variety of unique features that allow students to explore the natural world and learn about energy efficiency and conservation. It includes a 20' vertical axis wind turbine from WindStax, a weather station, a solar array and an open pavilion with a sheltered classroom that will accommodate students and teachers for instructional lessons. This center was designed and built by EWCTC students.



The Biomass Thermal Energy Council (BTEC) has announced plans to release 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, the West Penn Power Sustainable Energy Fund, and the Massachusetts Department of Energy Resources.



[Read more.](#)

21st-Century Energy Infrastructure

U.S. Secretary of Energy Ernest Moniz was at the Energy Innovation Center (EIC) in July to sign a historic MOU with Pittsburgh's Mayor Peduto regarding creating a 21st-century energy infrastructure in the city of Pittsburgh. The EIC provides a foundation for research and development for clean and renewable energy technologies. During his remarks, Moniz makes mention of the combined heat & power system that the center will soon have. WPPSEF provided both a grant and a loan for the purpose of acquiring and installing the natural gas fueled micro turbine combined heat and power system.



[Watch Video.](#)

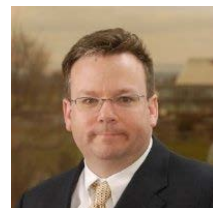
Kudos

Maureen Mulligan of Sustainable Futures Communications and Policy Director for Keystone Energy Efficiency Alliance (KEEA) earned the Lifetime Achievement Award at this year's Energypath Conference in July. Maureen specializes in lobbying, government relations and grassroots social networking/development in the areas of solar energy and energy efficiency. She has combined 25 years of experience working in government, not-for-profit energy advocacy organizations and trade associations to successfully work the passage of 4 major legislative campaigns as a lobbyist.



Previously she was division chief at the PA PUC, responsible for community education and utility education oversight. Her business model for advancing legislative and policy initiatives has a strong and consistent success rate because she approaches her goals through a multi-faceted model that incorporates the triple bottom line (social, environmental, financial). Her approach is unique and effective. WPPSEF congratulates Maureen on this career achievement. Her work is making a difference. Her passion is being recognized.

John Costlow and the staff and board of SEF was recognized by WPPSEF as a leader in Pennsylvania's sustainable energy community for their steadfast commitment to organize and host Pennsylvania's largest sustainable energy conference - Energypath. SEF demonstrates Power & Foresight in the way it nurtures and supports the deployment of renewable energy, energy efficiency & conservation measures, and for its educational outreach programs.



Conferences

WPPSEF helps to sponsor KEEA Conference 2015: Turning

Points in Energy Efficiency being held on October 6, 2015 in Harrisburg, PA. The KEEA Conference connects energy efficiency and advanced energy experts involved in utility program planning, energy

policy, customer engagement, and emerging energy technology. This year represents a number of key turning points in energy efficiency and advanced energy in Pennsylvania, from a new phase of Act 129 to new priorities from our state's new governor. With these changes ahead, now is the ideal time to exchange ideas with other leaders and innovators in the energy industry. [Register](#).



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
WEST PENN POWER
SUSTAINABLE
ENERGY FUND

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.
