

THE CURRENT



Energy news from around Philadelphia and beyond



Connect The Energy Co-op to Your Community!

We know our renewable electricity members are happy with their choice of The Energy Co-op to supply 100% wind and solar power. We know because you tell us.

Now, we're asking you to tell your friends, neighbors, and others in your community too.

After meeting many of you, we realize that you are The Energy Co-op's best advocates. You are incredibly supportive of our mission and work. So, we always wondered why our members don't take advantage of our \$25 renewable energy referral award program and talk to their friends and neighbors about their cooperative.

To solve the mystery, we invited all 5,000 of you to lunch or dinner, and a lot of you accepted. Here's what you said—"We love The Energy Co-op! And we don't mind telling our friends. We all want cleaner air. We all want to address climate change. But we don't know what to say. We don't know how to talk about renewable energy. We need training. And we need a handout too—something that helps us explain what's special about The Energy Co-op."

We listened, and we heard you.

Please plan to join us on Tuesday, July 28th, 2020 at 5:30p.m. for a one-hour Zoom webinar that will explain how to shop for renewable electricity in Pennsylvania. Together with our Member Recruitment Lead, Meryl Sands, we will walk you through the what, the why, and the how. [Click here](#) to register.

There are a lot of sharp operators in the renewable electricity market. Your friends and neighbors are justifiably wary. But you can make the difference. You can bridge the gap and bear witness to the cooperative energy advantage.

Looking forward to seeing you on July 28th!

Ronald Fisher
Executive Director

Attend Our Renewable Natural Gas Webinar!

What is renewable natural gas? Where does it come from? How does it reduce drilling and fracking in Pennsylvania, and how can you help? **Join us on July 14th, 2020, at 5:30p.m. for a webinar on our renewable natural gas program** for the answers to these questions, and many more! Our staff will explain everything you need to know about RNG, including where it comes from, what the market is like, how legislation affects the market, and how you can get involved in our program. [Click here](#) to sign up!

Can't make it? Don't fret! This isn't our first RNG webinar and it won't be our last. Keep checking our newsletters and emails for more webinar invitations.

Thank You for a Successful Annual Member Meeting!

Thank you to all our members who joined us for and voted in our first ever (and hopefully last) virtual Annual Member Meeting! Though we wish we could have met and celebrated in-person this year, we are grateful to all our members for your help and cooperation with this process.

We are pleased to announce that all three of our candidates for the Board of Directors—Adam Bashe, Ethan Birchard, and Sheree Petrone—were elected with over 92% of the vote. Congratulations to them and thank you to everyone who participated!

As many of you learned at the meeting, 2019 was a successful year and we look forward to making 2020 a year worth celebrating as well—hopefully in-person!

PennEnvironment Virtual Climate Action Event

The Energy Co-op is a cooperative that supplies sustainable, affordable energy to its members, not an advocacy group. So, we do not engage in



lobbying efforts or directly engage with elected or appointed government officials on policy matters.

But two Energy Co-op staff members—on their own time and in their own interest—participated last month in the first-ever [virtual action day organized by PennEnvironment](#), a Pennsylvania-focused environmental advocacy organization. Alexandra Kroger, The Energy Co-op’s renewable energy program’s director participated on behalf of the Philadelphia chapter of Women in Renewable Industries (WRISE), and Bryan Hutchinson, our staff accountant, took part to support causes of personal importance to him. The event, which took place on June 16th, featured virtual meetings with state representatives and senators, and their staff members, to advocate for legislation that will help fight climate change.

Alexandra met with state Representative James Roebuck and a staff member from the office of state Senator Vincent Hughes. Together with several other constituents, she thanked the legislators for their strong, reliable voting records in support of environmental and climate change-focused legislation. Each meeting featured a member of the PennEnvironment staff, who urged the elected officials to support Pennsylvania’s plan to join the [Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative](#), or RGGI. You can read more about RGGI in our recent blog post [here](#).

Bryan’s meetings were with his state senator, Thomas Killion, and his state house representative, Carolyn Comitta, and both also focused on RGGI. As PennEnvironment staffers noted during the meeting with Senator Killion, the concept of cap-and-trade—which is the strategy RGGI uses for reducing carbon emissions through tradeable allowances—enjoyed bipartisan support when adopted to address the problem of acid rain during the George H.W. Bush administration. During the meeting with Representative Comitta, participants also asked her to support the House’s passage of the Electric Vehicle Infrastructure bill, which had already passed in the Senate.

Their colleagues at The Energy Co-op applaud Alexandra and Bryan both for their civic involvement and commitment to sustainable, renewable energy, and for their great work with us on behalf of The Energy Co-op members.

July Events

- Renewable Natural Gas Webinar—7/14/2020 at 5:30p.m. [Register here](#).
- How to Shop for Renewable Electricity in Pennsylvania Webinar—7/28/2020 at 5:30p.m. [Sign up here](#).

What We’re Reading

[Could Renewable Natural Gas Be the Next Big Thing in Green Energy?](#) By Jonathan Mingle, Green Building Advisory

[Pennsylvania regulators promised to keep an eye on polluters during the pandemic. They’re struggling.](#) By Naveena Sadasivam, Grist

[US localities signed 335 renewable energy deals since 2015: report.](#) By Chris Teale, Utility Dive

Blog Posts

- [Buyer Beware! Electricity Slamming Could Happen to You.](#) By Georgia Mae Lively and Meryl Sands
- [11 Home Energy Efficiency Improvements You Can Do Yourself During Quarantine!](#) By Bethany Bender
- [\(No\) Love \(from the Feds\) for Clean Energy in the Time of Coronavirus](#) by Alexandra Kroger



Don't get slammed!
Watch this video from the
Pennsylvania Public Utility
Commission.



THE ENERGY CO-OP
Leading the Energy Evolution

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