

THE CURRENT



Energy news from around Philadelphia and beyond



In this month's newsletter -

- **The latest on energy prices**
- **Mark your calendar for the next Member-to-Member webinar on 12.7**
- **Ronald Fisher talks renewable energy on WURD's *Reality Check***
- **Our new mailing address**
- **A year of fun and informative member events**

Continuing to Monitor Energy Market Conditions

In last month's newsletter, and at our Member Town Hall on November 17, 2021, we shared with you an update of how The Energy Co-op has responded to a volatile energy market. If you have not yet done so, [we ask that you take a few minutes to read our recent blog post](#) on how higher natural gas prices impact our renewable energy programs, why natural gas prices have increased so rapidly, and what The Energy Co-op and our members can do.

We are monitoring the market daily to make the best decisions possible for our members, like you, who are committed to a cleaner environment, addressing climate change, and transitioning as quickly as possible to a sustainable economy. Thank you to those who attended the Town Hall and who have expressed support and patience in recent weeks.

Learn about Environmental, Social, & Governance Investing – December 7

Over the past decade, investors have paid increased attention to the environmental, social, and governance aspects of companies' operations in order to guide their investment decisions. Known as ESG investing, or sustainable investing, these strategies have had a profound impact on the financial sector with no signs of slowing. As of September 2021, assets in U.S. sustainable funds [totaled more than \\$330 billion](#).

So, we decided to make ESG investing the focus of our fourth Member-to-Member webinar, coming up on December 7, 2021. We'll welcome a distinguished pair of Energy Co-op members to discuss their experience and answer audience questions. No investment advice provided, but join us for a spirited and engaging conversation on how more and more investors are making investment choices that align with their socially conscious values.

Presenters include Energy Co-op member and Board member Ethan Birchard, Director of Marketing and Business Development for Prentiss Smith & Company, and Energy Co-op member Margaret Thompson, who has been a hobby ESG investor since the 1990's.

[Use this link to join us](#) on December 7, 2021 for the webinar and [share the event](#) with your friends!

Ronald Fisher Interview on WURD Radio

On November 3, 2021, Energy Co-op Executive Director [Ronald Fisher](#) [appeared on WURD Radio's Reality Check](#) to speak with host Charles Ellison about The Energy Co-op's programs and the role of renewable energy in accelerating our region's transition to a cleaner, sustainable future.

[Listen to the interview here!](#)

[WURD Radio](#) is Pennsylvania's only African-American owned talk radio station. The multimedia environmental justice journalism initiative [ecoWURD](#) examines Black communities at the intersection of race, health, income & the environment. The interview follows The Energy Co-op's sponsorship of [ecoWURD's Environmental Justice Summit](#) in October.

The Energy Co-op is on the Move

After a memorable decade, The Energy Co-op is saying farewell to our offices at 1315 Walnut Street in Philadelphia. The recent expiration of our lease presented an opportunity to seek new accommodations that will even better suit our staff and our members. Presently, the staff is meeting at coworking space in Center City while working to identify a suitable new location.

Our new mailing address is PO Box 22475, Philadelphia, PA 19110. Please update your address books accordingly. As always, you can reach us during

Looking Back at 2021 Member Events

2021 has been a year of adaptation and innovation. At The Energy Co-op, we started the year presenting all member events virtually. Beginning this summer, we've been fortunate to hold some events in-person, while maintaining the remote model for our educational offerings.

We launched two brand new event series in 2021. Our Member-to-Member webinars provide an outlet for individuals in our community to share their expertise on topics including the [Green New Deal](#), [electric vehicles](#), [sustainable home design](#), and [ESG investing](#). The quarterly New Member Orientations acquaint those who recently joined our cooperative community with all that Energy Co-op membership has to offer.

Other virtual events included Member Ambassador Training series and six unique events during [Earth Month](#) to connect members and educate about renewable energy. For a second consecutive year, we also convened our [Annual Member Meeting](#) remotely, and just last month hosted a [Member Town Hall](#).

There were several instances, however, when our staff was able to attend or present at events out in the community, including Ronald Fisher being [invited by the West Pikeland EAC](#) to speak about renewable energy, and staff spreading the word about our programs at the [ecoWURD Environmental Justice Summit](#), [Haverford Township Day](#), and [Philly Grocery Co-op Day](#). As conditions permit, we look forward to many more in-person events in 2022, and will keep *The Current* readers informed as they are announced.

Coming Events

[Member-to-Member Webinar: Learn about Environmental, Social, and Governance Investing](#)

Tuesday, December 7 @ 6:30pm

Virtual Event

A discussion on ESG investing—what it means, how it developed, and its importance in advancing sustainability.

[New Member Orientation](#)

Tuesday, February 10 @ 6:00pm

Virtual Event

This webinar will highlight the benefits associated with Energy Co-op membership and explain how to best take advantage of them.

What We're Reading

[Energy Secretary Granholm, visiting Philly, touts infrastructure bill and expected job creation](#)

At the Energy Coordinating Agency in Kensington, Energy Secretary Jennifer Granholm said that the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act will mean new

solar panels will be going up nationwide.
WHYY

[As renewable energy booms in states across the country, Pennsylvania lags behind](#)

Pennsylvania ranks 23rd in the nation for growth in solar power generation and 19th in wind power generation since 2011 according to a new report released by PennEnvironment Research & Policy Center.

PennEnvironment

[Countries strike a climate deal that's 'too late' for some, too much for others](#)

COP26 climate talks finished in November with a familiar outcome – the collective march toward action to tackle global warming is gaining momentum, but still falls short of what's needed to avert a crisis.

Politico

[Massive Shift toward Solar Power Begins in Largest U.S. Electricity Market \[podcast + transcript\]](#)

An unprecedented backlog of clean energy projects is in line to join PJM Interconnection, an electricity market serving Pennsylvanians and one in five of all Americans.

Kleinman Center for Energy Policy at the University of Pennsylvania

Blog Entries

[Making Sense of a Volatile Energy Market](#)

By Executive Director Ronald Fisher

[PA Climate Action Plan Provides Framework for Reducing Emissions](#)

By The Energy Co-op Staff, Edited by Member Services Intern Michelle Herzberg

[New Bills with Potential to Impact PA's Renewable Energy Sector](#)

By Member Services Intern Claire Glidden



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Leading the Energy Evolution

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