

OCTOBER 2023

THE CURRENT



Energy news from around Philadelphia and beyond



In this Month's Newsletter:

- Celebrating Co-op Month
- Renewable electricity fixed rates available
- Learn about battery storage in our Renewable Energy Classroom
- Watch our New Member Orientation

Celebrating Co-op Month

October is Co-op Month, a time to express our gratitude for The Energy Co-op's membership and reflect on the power of the cooperative movement! The cooperative movement is rooted in the principles of democratic ownership and community-driven decision-making and emerged to provide collective solutions and empowerment. At The Energy Co-op, these values are central to our mission, and we prioritize community solutions to foster sustainable and equitable growth. We extend our heartfelt appreciation to each of you for choosing The Energy Co-op. By being part of our cooperative, you are contributing to a more sustainable, environmentally friendly, and community-focused energy landscape in Philadelphia and beyond.

Cooperative values go beyond just energy, and there are many other remarkable co-ops in the Greater Philadelphia area! Check out the Philadelphia Area Cooperative Alliance for a [full list](#), and consider exploring:

- **Co-op Grocery Stores:** Shop at local co-op grocery stores like [Mariposa Food Co-op](#), [South Philly Food Co-op](#), and [Weavers Way Co-op](#) to enjoy fresh, sustainably sourced products while supporting the cooperative model.
- **Cooperative Housing:** Explore housing options which provide affordable and community-oriented living spaces.
- **Credit Unions:** Join a local credit union to access financial services rooted in cooperative principles.
- **Community Gardens:** Get involved with community gardens where residents come together to nurture green spaces.

Our work to build a clean energy future requires equitable growth of our cooperative community as well. Throughout October, The Energy Co-op will be raising funds to speak with a louder voice, transition more Pennsylvanians to renewable energy, and bolster Pennsylvania's green economy! Our Co-op Month appeal provides an opportunity for members and the public alike to support a future where all Pennsylvanians use locally generated renewable energy and have ownership of their energy supplier. To learn more about our Co-op Month appeal, [visit our website](#). Every day, your membership helps The Energy Co-op work towards a cleaner, brighter, more sustainable future, and we are so grateful for your support of our shared mission.

Renewable Electricity Fixed Rates Available

A reminder that there are still October fixed rate slots available for renewable electricity service with The Energy Co-op!

Beginning October 1, The Energy Co-op has made 100 additional fixed rate slots available on a first-come, first-served basis: 75 for current renewable electricity members and 25 for new or returning renewable electricity

members. If you did not get a chance to sign up in September, this is a great time for you to lock in a stable and predictable electricity rate as we head into the colder months.

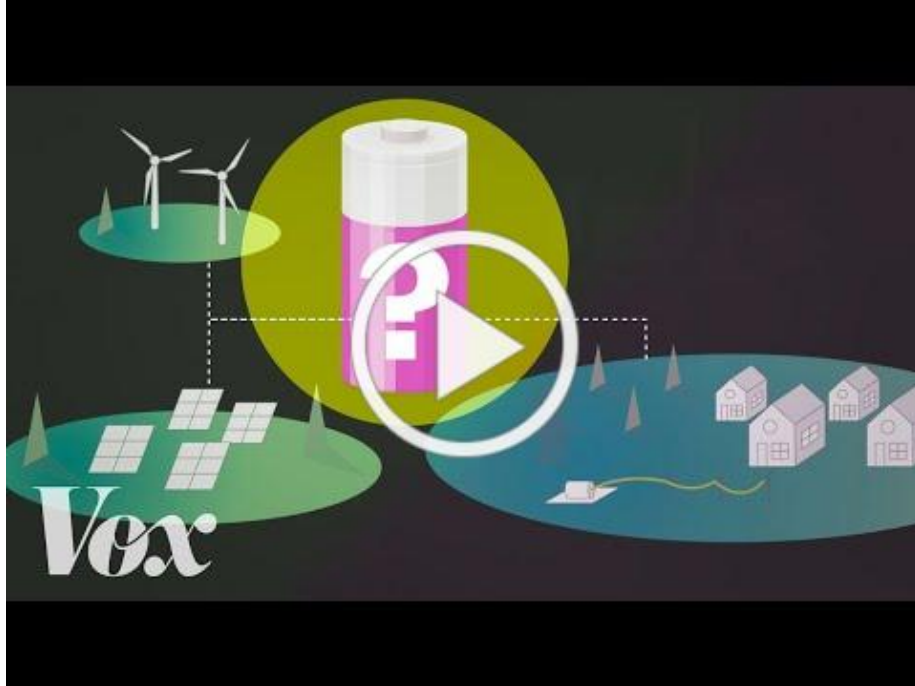
Interested in signing up for a fixed rate? Fantastic! If you are a current member of The Energy Co-op enrolled in one of our renewable electricity products, you can switch to a fixed rate using [this form](#). If you are not currently enrolled in one of The Energy Co-op's renewable electricity products, use [this form](#) to enroll. If you have any questions, please feel free to drop us a line at 215.413.2122 or send us an email at info@theenergy.coop.

Renewable Energy Classroom

Welcome back to our Renewable Energy Classroom, where we highlight different aspects of the generation, purchase, delivery, or use of renewable energy with a new video or article each month. In this month's Renewable Energy Classroom, let's discuss energy storage.

As [discussed in our blog](#) last year, improved energy storage is a key aspect of building our clean energy future. As we know from discussing the duck curve in the [August edition](#) of *The Current*, electricity demand does not always align with when solar and wind generation facilities are at their most active. Currently, when there is a gap between electricity demand and renewable energy production, it is met by fossil fuels due to limited capabilities to store renewable electricity for times when the sun isn't shining and the wind isn't blowing.

Fortunately, energy storage technology is improving, and there has been investment and technological advances at the public and private level. From advanced lithium-ion batteries to energy storage techniques that utilize potential energy or thermal energy, there are many methods currently being developed to broaden energy storage capabilities. Better energy storage could significantly increase the reliability of wind and solar electricity, and positively impact renewable energy proliferation. To learn more, let's take a look at this great video from [Vox](#) on clean energy's storage problem.



New Member Orientation

Did you know that a recording of The Energy Co-op's New Member Orientation is now available on our website? Whether you are a new member looking to learn more about your membership or a longtime member looking for a refresher, [watch our recorded presentation](#) to learn about The Energy Co-op's history, energy programs, membership benefits, and how to get involved and help grow our cooperative community.



Events

ecoWURD ecoFEST

Monday, October 9, 12:00 – 5:00pm

[One Art Community Center](#)

The Energy Co-op is joining our friends at WURD Radio to participate in the [ecoWURD ecoFEST](#). Come support WURD, The Energy Co-op, and other like-minded organizations in West Philadelphia while learning about environmental justice on Indigenous People's Day!

Jobs in Energy

Our friends at [The Philadelphia Energy Authority](#) are hiring for a Senior Manager, a Project Manager, a Program Manager, and a Residential Program Coordinator! If you are looking to join an organization that's building a robust clean energy future in Philadelphia, [learn more about the positions and apply here](#).



What We're Reading

[As renewables grow, questions remain for utilities and regulators](#)

As the share of energy from renewables grows, some policymakers in Harrisburg have raised concerns about electric grid reliability.

Rachel McDevitt, State Impact Pennsylvania

[Utility Dive - Energy Transition Trendline](#)

The U.S. energy sector is undergoing a transition to a cleaner energy future, but the pace of new installations is being hampered by obstacles.

(sign up required to view)

Davide Savenije, Utility Dive

[Proposed rule change could supercharge sales of heat-pump water heaters](#)

The DOE plans to update efficiency standards for water heaters, a move that could spur mass adoption in U.S. households and make a big dent in emissions.

Akielly Hu, Canary Media

Blog Posts

[Spotlight on Renewable Energy Technology: Offshore Wind Power](#)

By Eric Miller

[Faces of The Energy Co-op: Lauren Keller](#)

By Colin Teague

[Energy Saving Series Recap](#)

By Eric Miller



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Leading the Energy Evolution

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