
September 2024

THE CURRENT



Energy news from around Philadelphia and beyond



In this Month's Newsletter:

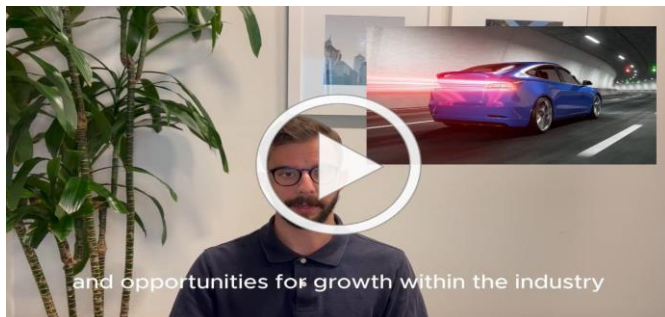
- **In the News: Electric Vehicles**
- **Learn about Wave Power in our Renewable Energy Classroom**
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- **Energy Efficiency Home Audit Program**

In the News

Welcome back to The Energy Co-op's [In the News](#) series, where our team brings you the latest in renewable energy developments to keep our members informed on the ever-changing energy landscape. In this edition, The Energy Co-op's Membership and Communications Coordinator, Eric Miller, dives into the rapidly growing electric vehicle (EV) market.

The EV market has seen substantial growth, with global sales potentially reaching 17 million units this year, making up over 20% of all vehicles sold. Companies like BYD and Tesla are leading the charge, with Tesla's recent price cuts influencing competitors worldwide. However, despite this progress, challenges such as limited public charging infrastructure and the high upfront cost of EVs continue to pose significant barriers. Additionally, the industry's future direction may hinge on policy shifts under the next administration, with contrasting approaches from Donald Trump and Kamala Harris potentially shaping the landscape of EV adoption in the U.S.

Click the video below to [explore the current state of the EV market](#), the hurdles it faces, and the opportunities that lie ahead for a greener transportation future.



Renewable Energy Classroom

Welcome back to the Renewable Energy Classroom, where we dive into various aspects of renewable energy each month. This time, we're focusing on wave power—a source of clean energy that has long shown potential but remains underdeveloped. In 1974, the Edinburgh Duck, a device designed to harness ocean waves, generated excitement but ultimately failed to make a lasting impact. Wave energy's promise has been hindered by the complexity of waves and the harsh marine environment, where devices face corrosion and high maintenance costs.

Despite these challenges, wave power is making a comeback as the world strives for net-zero emissions. Unlike wind, waves are reliable, predictable, and can generate more power for the space they occupy. Recent developments in Australia, the United States, and Europe show renewed interest, with significant public and private investments flowing into the sector. Companies are now successfully testing wave energy devices, overcoming previous obstacles and pushing the technology closer to commercial viability.

While wave power is still far behind wind and solar, it offers unique advantages, particularly in specific markets like islands without grid connections and offshore platforms. Continued investment and technological advancements could help wave energy carve out a significant role in the renewable energy landscape, providing a reliable and sustainable source of power in our transition to a cleaner future. To learn more, check out this great video from DW Planet A!





The Energy Co-op Welcomes New Staff Members




Energy Efficiency Home Audit Program

The Energy Co-op is excited to partner with the [Energy Coordinating Agency](#) (ECA) to provide high-quality home energy audits to Energy Co-op members. As part of our partnership with ECA, Energy Co-op members will also have the opportunity to learn more about energy efficiency at upcoming virtual and in-person events.

An ECA energy audit provides an in-depth evaluation of your home's energy efficiency. Unlike more surface-level assessments, the ECA Energy Audit is performed by a certified Building Performance Institute (BPI) energy auditor over the course of two to three hours. This comprehensive audit includes the installation of energy-saving LED bulbs and a series of thorough tests designed to identify and address energy inefficiencies. Additionally, the auditor will provide thermostat education to help you optimize your settings for maximum savings and deliver a personalized report with detailed recommendations for energy efficiency improvements, including cost estimates and expected return on investment. As part of our partnership, Energy Co-op members are eligible for an exclusive offer to apply the cost of the audit towards additional energy efficiency services purchased through ECA totaling \$1,000 or more.

Following ECA's audit recommendations could yield substantial results, with tips and strategies potentially saving you up to 60% on energy costs annually. This cooling season be sure to take advantage of this new member benefit to maximize your home's energy efficiency and reduce energy usage while maintaining a comfortable indoor climate. Click the button below to learn more or sign up for an energy audit!



Upcoming Events

[Mount Airy Village Fair](#)

Sunday, September 22, 11:00am - 4:00pm

West Mount Airy (At the corner of Carpenter Ln. and Greene St.)

The Energy Co-op will be tabling at this year's Mount Airy Village Fair! Stop by to say hello to our staff and learn more about The Energy Co-op.

What We're Reading

[Federal dollars driving energy policy in Pennsylvania toward solar, hydrogen](#)

Thanks to federal dollars, PA is passing new energy bills that require bipartisan compromise. Carbon capture, solar investments, and more are on the table.

Kate Huangpu, *Spotlight PA*

[As the DNC Kicks Off, Here's How Climate Fits In](#)

Vice President Kamala Harris has yet to release an official climate plan, but advocates are increasingly rallying around her campaign.

Kiley Price, *Inside Climate News*

[How to protect yourself against solar scams](#)

Lawmakers are starting to debate Gov. Josh Shapiro's proposal to increase renewable energy in the state.

Alison Takemura, *Canary Media*

Blog Posts

[Why We Developed a Strategic Plan and How We're Doing](#)

By Divya Desai and Hillary Bedeian

[PACER vs. RGGI: Charting Pennsylvania's Path to a Clean Energy Future](#)

By Eric Miller

[Interview: Energy Justice in Philadelphia](#)

By Guest Columnist, Nidhi Krishen, Deputy Director of Climate Solutions at the City of Philadelphia Office of Sustainability



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Leading the Energy Evolution

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