#### Report of the

# Metropolitan Edison Company Sustainable Energy Fund

and the

# Pennsylvania Electric Company Sustainable Energy Fund

Metropolitan Edison Company SUSTAINABLE ENERGY FUND of Berks County Community Foundation and the

Pennsylvania Electric Company SUSTAINABLE ENERGY FUND of the Community Foundation for the Alleghenies

December 7, 2011

# **Fund Purposes**

- 1. The development and use of renewable and clean energy technologies;
- 2. Energy conservation and efficiency;
- 3. Sustainable energy businesses; and
- 4. Projects that improve the environment in the Metropolitan Edison Company/ Pennsylvania Electric Company service territories, as they relate to the companies' transmission and distribution facilities.

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# **Board**

Mr. Derek C. James	The Dome-Tech Group
Mr. Scott Gebhardt	Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission
Mr. Samuel E. Hepfer, Jr.	South Central Community Action Programs, Inc.
Mr. Brian M. Vayda	American Powernet
Mr. Edward Miller	Northwest Savings Bank
Mr. John Ubinger, Jr.	Pennsylvania Environmental Council
Mr. Timothy C. Burdis	PJM Environmental Information Services
Mr. Frank D. Plank	Knouse Foods Cooperative, Inc.
Ms. Marybeth Smialek	FirstEnergy

# Sample Activities

- PennFuture events
- Pittsburgh Green Building Alliance, Laurel Highlands affiliate
- U.S. Green Building Association, Central Pennsylvania chapter
- Biomass Working Group
- Sustainable Pittsburgh
- Funders Network for Smart Growth
- Southern Alleghenies Planning and Development Commission, alternative energy meeting
- Laurel Highlands Conservation Coalition
- Ben Franklin Technology Partners
- Presentations to various businesses and municipalities

## Staff

Mike Kane,
Angie Berzonski
Community Foundation
for the Alleghenies

Kevin Murphy, Heidi Williamson Berks County Community Foundation

Scott Gebhardt Pennsylvania Public Utilities Commission

# Financial Approvals

From January 1, 2011 – October 31, 2011, the funds approved financing totaling \$1,185,571.

Of that total, \$104,711 was authorized for 6 grants and \$1,080,000 was authorized for 4 loans/investments.

Since inception, Met-Ed/Penelec SEF has approved

- 101 grants totaling \$2,115,038
- 30 loans totaling \$19,818,724
- 3 equity investments totaling \$1,600,000.

#### **Grants**

- Disaster's Edge Environmental Center, Cambria County
  - \$24,000
  - Ground heat source exchange
- Shawnee Country Market, Bedford County
  - \$5,000
  - Electrical improvements recommended by eCAP
- Erie School District, Erie County
  - \$29,800
  - Development of the E2 Program (Energy & Education)
- Rodale Institute, Berks County
  - \$32,371
  - Installation of solar panels
- PA BIOMASS Energy Association, statewide
  - \$5,000
  - Development of a statewide biomass association
- PA Environmental Council, statewide
  - \$8,540
  - Small and low hydro state conference

## Loans/Investments

- Epiphany Solar Water Systems, Inc., Lawrence County
  - \$50,000
  - Uses solar power to generate water purification/desalination systems
- Liberty, LLC, Bradford County
  - \$500,000
  - Harvests waste heat from a bank of reciprocating engines at a natural gas compression facility
- Shawnee Country Market, Bedford County
  - \$37,000
  - Electric improvements recommended by eCAP
- Scottish Heights, Jefferson County
  - \$493,000
  - Solar energy installation

### Erie School District's E2 Plan

Promoting a comprehensive, educationbased energy conservation program for the Erie School District, consisting of 13,000 students in 21 schools, guided by:

- Environmental Stewardship
- Behavioral Change
- Student Involvement
- Educational Impact
- Cost Effectiveness







### Erie School District's E2 Plan

#### Phase I

- Background on life support systems, renewable and nonrenewable resources, energy, and the scientific method.
- An energy timeline to teach the development of electricity generation.
- A presentation to emphasize the benefits and drawbacks of solar, wind, geothermal, and biofuel as examples of renewable energy sources, including games like, "Who Wants to Be an Environmentalist?", "Environmental Jeopardy," "Enviroscape," and "Lake Erie Watershed."

#### Phase II

- Teaches students to perform energy audits using light and wattage meters to collect data, collate electrical and heating data to produce graphs, create a Powerpoint presentation, and research the use of energy in the building. They organize and analyze data, make recommendations, and develop ways to implement them.
- The energy star rating will be assessed at the end of the school year to track progress during the project.

# **Opportunity House**

Opportunity House provides services for homeless, formerly homeless, and low-income families in Berks County.

One of its services is a 24-hour-per-day childcare center called The Second Street Learning Center.



# **Opportunity House Overview**

- \$25,000 grant to cover the cost of LEED® certification of the Second Street Learning Center
- \$500,000 loan for construction of the Second Street Learning Center
  - Region's only 24/7 childcare center
  - More than 300 children attend the center each week



# **Opportunity House Overview**

- Expansion included a new Technology Center to help close the digital divide for Second Street Learning Center's children
- Construction completed in early summer 2011
- Seeking LEED<sup>®</sup>
   gold level –
   evaluation is in
   progress



# December 1, 2011 Board Meeting

#### • Financial Approvals

- Allegheny College, Crawford County
  - \$25,000 grant
  - LEED level renovations, specifically daylighting strategies for lobby area
- Berks County Conservancy, Berks County
  - \$5,000 grant
  - "State of the Environment" project educates students about costs related to energy, environment & economic development through hands-on activities
- Inclined Plane Discharge Geothermal Project, Cambria County
  - \$25,000 grant
  - Market analysis of potential uses for AMD water in energy delivery system

#### • Preliminary Review

- Human Services Center, Inc., Lawrence County
  - \$25,000 grant/\$200,000 loan
  - Green certified renovations to improve energy efficiency, to include window replacement, insulation, and installation of Green Grid roof

## 2012 Business Plan

- Goal One: Develop sustainable/renewable energy projects that can be funded in the calendar year 2012.
- Goal Two: Utilize strategic grantmaking to fulfill the fund's conservation and environmental goals, including the education and promotion of energy efficiency in non-profit, governmental and commercial buildings.
- Goal Three: Place \$1,500,000 in investments (either as loans or equity participation) in qualifying projects.
- Goal Four: Participate in the relevant activities of state, regional and national sustainable energy fund networks, including relevant conferences and presentations.
- Goal Five: Develop a website that promotes the Fund, educates the sustainable public and offers insights into alternative energy.
- Goal Six: Develop a program with Kutztown University's Small Business Development Center for alternative energy projects.
- Goal Seven: Increased communication on funded projects, including media releases, web articles, and other communications