

WPPSEF
WEST PENN POWER
SUSTAINABLE
ENERGY FUND

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DEC 26 2023 AM 10:54

The Pennsylvania State University • EMS Energy Institute • C-211 CUL • University Park, PA 16802-2323 • (814) 441-1100 – mobile

December 21, 2023

Ms. Rosemary Chiavetta
Secretary's Bureau
Pennsylvania Public Utilities Commission
Commonwealth Keystone Building
2nd Floor, Room-N201
400 North Street
Harrisburg, PA 17120

Re: Nomination of Mr. Mike Pauly and Ms. Brandon Schimp to the West Penn Power Sustainable Energy Fund Board of Directors (Docket Number M-00031715F0005).

Dear Ms. Chiavetta,

On behalf of the West Penn Power Sustainable Energy Fund (WPPSEF), I am submitting two nominations for two board seats that will become vacant on January 1, 2024. The nominations are:

Mike Pauly (Ventana USA, VP Operations and Sales). Mike is being nominated to replace Michelle Ponchione. Ventana USA is in Westmoreland County where they manufacture Passive House-certified high-performance windows. Mike's broad understanding of Passive House coupled with his understanding on the needs of manufacturers within the West Penn Power service area will strengthen WPPSEF's support of in-state manufacturing.

Brandon (Brandy) Schimp (Borough of Kane, Mayor). Brandy is being nominated to replace James Stark. Kane, located in McKean County, is within the West Penn Power service region. Brandy has a broad understanding of the needs of small rural communities. Brandy provided strong support throughout WPPSEF's construction of Six&Kane, a project which is receiving international attention and recently won the 2023 Governor's Award for Environmental Excellence.

We are excited to provide Mike and Brandon the opportunity to join the WPPSEF Board, if approved by the Pennsylvania Public Utilities Commission (PUC). I have attached their resumes for PUC consideration.

Respectfully Submitted,

Joel L. Morrison

Fund Administrator, WPPSEF

Cc:

Mr. Alan Neuner, WPPSEF President
Mr. James Smith, Economic Growth Connection of Westmoreland
Mr. David Edinger, PA Public Utility Commission
file

MIKE PAULY

LETTER OF INTEREST

CONTACT

412-477-3138

mpauly@ventanapa.com

1022 Hunt Club Ct.
Export, PA 15632

RECIPIENT

Mr. Joel Morrison

WPPSEF Administrator
The Pennsylvania State
University
C-211 CUL
University Park, PA 16802

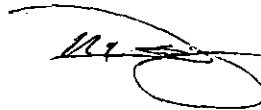
Dear Mr. Joel Morrison,

It is often said that the world cannot run without computers. Ultimately, what people fail to see is that computers do not run without energy. The development of renewable and efficient energy use is vital to the growth of people and businesses throughout Pennsylvania and the world. Therefore, it is with great interest that I submit this Letter of Interest to the West Penn Power Sustainable Energy Fund Board.

As a business owner and resident of Westmoreland County, supporting local communities and projects that enhance the lives of those within is of utmost importance to me. One of the main products produced by our company, Ventana USA, is a Tilt & Turn Window System. This system is a European designed system that passes the most stringent thermal testing along with PASSIV House Certifications. Additionally, we are one of the few manufacturers that build this system entirely in North America. We pride ourselves in growing the knowledge and understanding of what this system can bring to housing and building envelopes and their energy efficiency. We work directly with home builders and dealers that specialize in providing products that support these initiatives.

It is my hope that the Board of WPPSEF will find as much value in me as a member as I do in the missions of the Fund itself. Thank you for your consideration and review of my candidacy.

Regards,



Mike Pauly

Mike Pauly

VP Of Sales and Operations

Talented VP of Sales and Operations with extensive experience in driving revenue growth and optimizing operational efficiency.

mpauly@ventanapa.com

412-477-3138

Murrysville, United States

WORK EXPERIENCE

VP of Sales and Operations Ventana USA

2018 - Present

Achievements/Tasks

- Oversee Sales force and customer base for over \$20million in revenue
- Oversee manufacturing operations of 4 production facilities, 8 product lines, and over 100 employees
- Ensure production targets are established and met for all employees
- Develop and maintain Logistics network of company owned trucks & 3PL services
- Develop new products, sales channels, and automated equipment for manufacturing processes

Operations Manager Ventana USA

2006 - 2018

Achievements/Tasks

- Established LEAN manufacturing for each production line.
- Created 5S processes and planning throughout all facilities
- Oversaw 100+ employees and their daily job responsibilities

Chief Operations Officer FlexScreen Pittsburgh

2014 - 2020

Achievements/Tasks

- Developed the manufacturing process for the first and only flexible window screen
- Spec'd and designed the equipment and materials from idea to full production
- Created the process that enabled the product to win Shark Tank contract in 2019
- Sold the business in 2020

EDUCATION

MBA - Specialization in Management Seton Hill University

2012

BA Economics West Virginia University

2003

SKILLS

Sales Strategy

Operations Management

Business Development

Financial Analysis

Team Leadership

Strategic Planning

VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE

Economic Growth Connection Chairman of the Board

LANGUAGES

English

Native Language

German

Professional Working Proficiency

INTERESTS

Family Oriented, devoted husband and loving father of 3

Active outdoorsman



Economic Growth Connection

November 29, 2023

Mr. Joel Morrison
WPPSEF Administrator
The Pennsylvania State University
C-211 CUL
University Park, PA 16802-2323

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Dear Joel,

I am writing to wholeheartedly recommend Mr. Mike Pauly, VP of Ventana USA, for a position on the board of the West Penn Power Sustainable Energy Fund (WPPSEF). As the Chairman of the Economic Growth Connection, a nonprofit economic development organization focused on Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania, I have had the privilege of working closely with Mr. Pauly, witnessing his exceptional leadership, dedication, and expertise in the field of sustainable manufacturing.

Ventana USA, under Mr. Pauly's guidance, has emerged as a pioneering force in the manufacturing sector, particularly in the production of custom windows to Passive House standards. Their commitment to excellence has been demonstrated through their involvement in notable projects, including the groundbreaking initiative in Kane, PA, where they played a pivotal role in the renovation of a century-old building to Passive House standards. This landmark project, the first of its kind in the United States, has not only transformed the local landscape but has also garnered international acclaim.

Mr. Pauly's leadership at Ventana USA aligns seamlessly with the mission and objectives of WPPSEF. His wealth of experience in sustainable manufacturing, coupled with a demonstrated commitment to advancing renewable energy projects, makes him an ideal candidate for the board. WPPSEF's bylaws emphasize a diverse composition of board members from various sectors, including manufacturing, and Mr. Pauly's background perfectly fulfills this criterion.

Beyond his professional accomplishments, Mr. Pauly is known for his collaborative approach, strategic vision, and unwavering dedication to the betterment of communities. His passion for sustainable energy aligns with WPPSEF's mission to fund projects that contribute to the growth and advancement of renewable and sustainable energy initiatives.

Having observed Mr. Pauly's exemplary contributions to economic development in Westmoreland County, I am confident that his participation on the board of WPPSEF will bring invaluable insights, innovation, and leadership to the organization. I wholeheartedly endorse his candidacy and believe that his appointment will greatly enhance the effectiveness and impact of WPPSEF in fostering sustainable energy solutions.

Thank you for considering Mr. Mike Pauly as a prospective board member. Should you require any further information or wish to discuss his candidacy in more detail, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

James L. Smith
President & CEO



November 14, 2023

West Penn Power Sustainable Energy Fund
c/o Mr. Joel Morrison
WPPSEF Administrator
The Pennsylvania State University
C-211 CUL
University Park, PA 16802-2323

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Dear Joel,

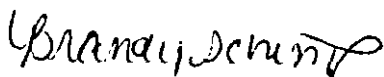
I am writing to you today to express my interest in the volunteer Board of Directors position with the *West Penn Power Sustainable Energy Fund*.

After spending the last several years coming to know the mission, works, people, and energy of the WPPSEF, I have witnessed first hand the impact that your organization can have on communities, especially in rural areas. I hope that I can work along side your board, sharing the successes and impact to other rural areas who may feel that "sustainable energy" might not be a fit for their communities.

Not only can it fit, it can surpass any expectation set. As you know, a major catalyst for the Kane Area Children's Museum is the Six&Kane project. I don't want to see that momentum end here—I want to do my part to help expand the education that has been fostered here into other parts of rural Pennsylvania. Rural is a passion of mine and to watch the WPPSEF embrace these places has been an honor. Serving as mayor in my sixth year, I have a wide network of other mayors and government leaders with whom I would love to see embrace the WPPSEF as Kane has done. I would like to give back and offer my time and support to your organization.

Enclosed you will find my resume and two letters of support. Please feel free to reach out with any questions. Thank you for your time and your efforts with the WPPSEF.

Sincerely,



Brandon (Brandy) Schimp
Mayor, Borough of Kane

BRANDON SCHIMP

Mayor, Borough of Kane

ABOUT ME

As a lifelong resident serving in my 6th year as the Mayor of the Borough of Kane, I strongly believe in doing my part to revitalize and strengthen rural Pennsylvania. As a mother to three young children, my focus is often on the youth of our community as I consider them to be our greatest asset.

EDUCATION

2002-2006
Indiana University of PA
BA Marketing

1998-2002
Kane Area High School

EXPERIENCE

Today **Moose Ventures LLC**

-2017 Owner

- Oversee daily operations for 20 rental apartments and 6 commercial storefronts
- Manage all financials for residential and commercial real estate
- Oversee and participate in renovations for multiple rental spaces

2016 **Allegheny Store Fixtures**

-2010 Sales & Marketing, Accounting, Human Resources

- Acquire new clients and manage existing cliental
- Oversee all human resource responsibilities, including a payroll of 50
- Oversee all financials, including accounts payable and receivable

2010 **SYSCO Food Services**

-2006 Marketing Associate

- Oversee food sales to customer base
- Expand customer base and grow territory

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Borough of Kane, Mayor

Northwest Bank Advisory Board, Member

University of Pittsburgh at Bradford Advisory Board, Member

Kane Area Children's Museum Board, Member

Kane Area Rotary Club, Member

Kane Elementary PTO, President

Kids of Steel, Running Coach

Association of the Mayors of the Boroughs of Pennsylvania, Vice President

Tabor Lutheran Church, Endowment Committee and Social Commitee

814.598.7163

brandonschimp@gmail.com

November 14, 2023

West Penn Power Sustainable Energy Fund
c/o Mr. Joel Morrison
WPPSEF Administrator
The Pennsylvania State University
C-211 CUL
University Park, PA 16802-2323

Dear Joel,

It is with great pleasure that I write on behalf of Brandon Schimp, Mayor of the Borough of Kane, who is seeking a seat on the Board of Directors of the West Penn Power Sustainable Energy Fund.

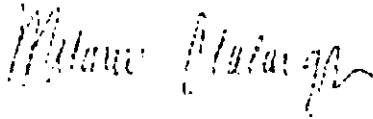
I have known Mrs. Schimp since 2010, and can attest to her character, work ethic, creative and critical thinking skills and profound interest in the success and development of Pennsylvania, particularly rural Pennsylvania.

Since 2018, Mrs. Schimp has worked to drive a successful, collaborative partnership with the Fund because she believes in the power of sustainable energy in driving development, long-term cost savings and much-needed efficiency across the older infrastructure that has long-defined rural Appalachia. Through her work with your organization (and THANKS to your organization!), the Borough of Kane has set an example for all communities, big and small—these projects can be done and they make a difference!

Mrs. Schimp adds value to every board she's on and project she engages with because of her creativity, level-headedness, strong organizational skills and follow-through. I have no doubt that she would be a great asset to the Fund and your mission.

If you would like verbal confirmation, or if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



Melanie Clabaugh
Vice President, Communications & Public Relations
Northwest Bank
Councilwoman, Borough of Kane
570-490-8773 • melanie.clabaugh@gmail.com

WOODS BAKER & ROSS

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SMETHPORT OFFICE
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SMETHPORT, PA 16749

ERIK A. ROSS
HON. JOHN M. CLELAND (Ret.)
Of Counsel

MICHAEL P. BAKER, Retired
LAWRENCE M. WOODS
(1925 - 2004)

TEL: (814) 837-8720
FAX: (814) 837-2285
WoodsBakerRoss.com

TEL: (814) 887-2655

November 6, 2023

Mr. Joel Morrison
WPPSEF Administrator
The Pennsylvania State University
C-211 CUL
University Park, PA 16802-2323

Dear Joel,

This letter is written in support of Brandy Schimp's letter of interest in joining the WPPSEF Board of Directors.

As you know, Brandy is a well-known, well-liked public servant connected with many political and civic organizations, not the least of which is serving as Mayor of Kane. She has already demonstrated her commitment to the mission of WPPSEF by her work in championing the 6&Kane building through the stages of site acquisition and construction, and then publicizing the completed project in Kane and beyond.

Brandy has a unique ability to leverage her personal skills with her business background in a way that brings people together in positive ways to achieve significant results. No doubt she would bring that same skill set to the important work of WPPSEF.

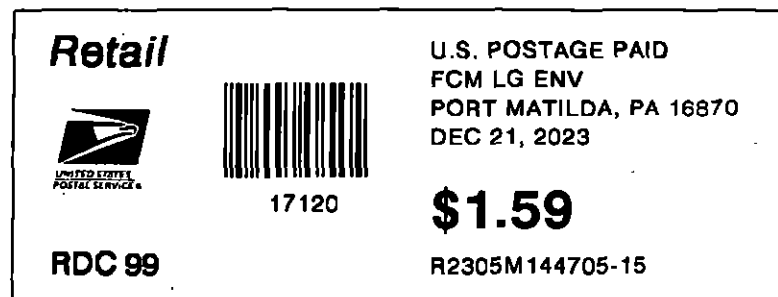
I recommend, without hesitation, her consideration for a position on your Board of Directors.

Sincerely,



Hon. John M. Cleland (Ret.)

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- 211 CAL
University Park, PA 16802-2323



Rosemary Chiavetta
Secretary's Bureau
PA Public Utilities Commission
Commonwealth Keystone Building
2nd floor, Room N201
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