

# THE CURRENT



*Energy news from around Philadelphia and beyond*



## Tell Us What's Happening With Your Environmental Advisory Council

[Last year in our blog](#), The Energy Co-op published a primer on [Environmental Advisory Councils \(EACs\)](#) in Pennsylvania. Since then, we've been hearing a lot about the wonderful work our members are doing with their hometown EACs, and as we prepare a follow-up blog entry, want you to tell us what you've been up to.

Just this week we caught wind of the East Goshen Sustainability Advisory Committee's involvement in shaping the [West Chester Area Clean Energy Future](#) Campaign, which recently held its kickoff meeting as they pursue efforts to engage their communities on energy reduction, electrification, and transition to renewable energy. Our staff accountant, Bryan Hutchinson, is a member of the East Goshen Sustainability Advisory Committee. More on all that in our forthcoming blog piece!

### Reminder:

Join Executive Director Ron Fisher for a virtual lunch or dinner to learn more about what The Energy Co-op's been up to and what's in store for 2021.

[Sign up here.](#)

Milton Meyer, another Energy Co-op member, continues his involvement with the Swarthmore EAC, as they work to forward sustainable energy initiatives in Swarthmore. Their EAC has partnered with several other area organizations to help advise their Borough Council and educate citizens on matters that affect the quality of the environment in the Borough. Recently, their recommendation to add solar panels to the Borough Hall was accepted, and they have been lobbying the Borough to make their next electricity contract renewable and to procure EV police vehicles.

We'd like to hear from and get the word out about other EAC members who are part of our cooperative community. Please send details about the work of your local EAC to Noah Swistak, Member Services Lead, at [noah@theenergy.coop](mailto:noah@theenergy.coop), and we'll feature its work in an upcoming blog entry.

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## Join Us at Two Brand New Events This Month

The Energy Co-op staff have been hard at work, not just helping to heat your homes this winter, but in developing two brand new virtual event series set to take place in February.

The first is coming right up next week, when we'll kick off our yearlong series of Member-to-Member webinars. [Join us on February 11 on Zoom](#) for a presentation from Bob Groves on the Green New Deal and the initiatives we need to consider to effectively address climate change. Whether it's called a Green New Deal or something else does not really matter, but those proposals, in his view, offer the best description of the various initiatives that are needed if our nation is serious about addressing the realities the whole world is facing. In addition to being an instructor at Temple University's Osher Lifelong Learning Institute, Bob is a longtime Energy Co-op member, as well as one of our Member Ambassadors.

Next up is The Energy Co-op's inaugural New Member Orientation webinar, being held virtually February 23. Staff members Meryl Sands and Noah Swistak have prepared a mirthful and engaging review of the benefits available to Energy Co-op members like yourself, as well as how to best utilize all that is available to you. The live presentation will allow for questions and answers from attendees. [Registration is open now](#) for this fun and informative program designed for newer members and those looking to reacquaint themselves with the work of the cooperative.

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## Appreciation for Our Partners

This month sees The Energy Co-op collaborating with some of our partner organizations as we look to broaden our impact and grow our community. We're once again teaming with [Weavers Way](#) on a number of initiatives designed to inform their members about sustainable energy and demonstrate the ease with which their network can power their homes with 100% wind and solar through our renewable electricity program. Because The Energy Co-op was founded by Weavers Way members over four decades ago, we're thrilled that our alliance is continuing to strengthen all these years later.

February also marks The Energy Co-op's return to the airwaves of [WHYY](#), as we're proud to again assist in the underwriting of the station's programming. Their platform has previously proved to be an invaluable vehicle for educating Pennsylvanians about our mission, which we look forward to continuing into 2021. Listeners should remain tuned in for The Energy Co-op's spots, airing over the next month.

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## What We're Reading

### [Biden order aims to double offshore wind, boost transmission](#)

New executive order also calls for electrifying the federal vehicle fleet, reviewing mining and drilling activities on public lands, and directing federal investments toward creating new job opportunities.

*Utility Dive*

### [PJM, utilities 'messaging with' state sovereignty is 'biggest threat' to climate goals: Maryland commissioner](#)

A Maryland regulator calls out utility and grid operator delays as interfering with the state's policy to encourage renewable energy development.

*Utility Dive*

### [Renewable energy now Europe's main source of electricity](#)

Renewables powered 38% of electricity in the European Union last year.

*The Verge*

### [Biden to place environmental justice at center of sweeping climate plan](#)

The president plans far-reaching actions to cut carbon emissions, aid polluted communities and shift the nation to renewable energy.

*Washington Post*

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## Coming Events

### [Member-to-Member Webinar Series: Bob Groves](#)

Thursday, February 11 @ 6:30pm

*Free for Energy Co-op Members*

[Register Here!](#)

Join The Energy Co-op for the first in our series of Member-to-Member webinars, as Bob Groves presents on the Green New Deal.

### [Member Orientation Webinar](#)

Tuesday, February 23 @ 5:30pm

*Free for Energy Co-op Members*

[Register Here!](#)

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

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**THE ENERGY CO-OP**

Leading the Energy Evolution

215.413.2122 | [info@theenergy.coop](mailto:info@theenergy.coop) | [www.theenergy.coop](http://www.theenergy.coop)

