
JUNE 2024

THE CURRENT



Energy news from around Philadelphia and beyond



In this Month's Newsletter:

- **Energy Efficiency Home Audit Program launches today!**
 - **Mark your calendars for this year's Annual Member Meeting on June 27**
 - **Learn about EVs and the grid in our Renewable Energy Classroom**
 - **Summer Fridays at The Energy Co-op**
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Energy Efficiency Home Audit Program

Beginning today, The Energy Co-op will once again 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.

The potential energy savings from following ECA's audit recommendations are substantial, with tips and strategies potentially saving you up to 60% on energy costs annually. As we head into the 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!

[Audit Program](#)

Join The Energy Co-op for our 2024 Annual Member Meeting!

As a member of The Energy Co-op, one of the most important ways you can make your voice heard is through democratic participation. The Energy Co-op's Annual Member Meeting is just around the corner and is the best time for members like you to exercise your right to vote, learn about the state of our cooperative, and engage with other members of The Energy Co-op, staff, and board members while enjoying complimentary food and drink!

On Thursday, June 27, The Energy Co-op's [2024 Annual Member Meeting](#) will be held from 5:30 - 7:00 pm at [The Masonic Temple](#) in Philadelphia (1 North Broad St., Philadelphia, PA 19107). To attend the 2024 AMM, remember to register on our website and view minutes from the 2023 AMM at the links

below!

Register for the 2024 AMM

View 2023 AMM Minutes

Can't make it? No problem! You can still participate by voting with our proxy form, which will soon be live on The Energy Co-op's website and sent to all members. Voting should take only a few minutes, and your voice is an essential part of our cooperative community. If you have any questions, please reach out to info@theenergy.coop, or give us a call at 215.413.2122. We hope to see you there!

Renewable Energy Classroom: EVs and The Grid

Welcome back to the Renewable Energy Classroom, where we highlight various aspects of the generation, purchase, delivery, or use of renewable energy with a new video or article each month. In this month's edition, we will discuss the challenges that the EV boom may pose to the power grid in the United States.

By 2030, electric vehicles are projected to make up over half of new car sales in the U.S., which will significantly increase electricity demand. Electrification initiatives aim to decarbonize various sectors, but 60% of U.S. electricity still comes from fossil fuels, necessitating a major investment in renewable energy. To handle the increased demand, the grid requires modernization, including more high-voltage transmission lines and local distribution upgrades. Nationally, the cost could range from \$3.5 to \$5 trillion. However, current U.S. investment is far below this level, and building the necessary infrastructure is complicated by bureaucratic hurdles, with permitting processes taking a decade or more.

Permitting reform and legislative action are critical to expedite grid upgrades and build new infrastructure. As political dynamics evolve, immediate action is crucial to meet decarbonization targets and support the electrification of the transportation sector and beyond.

To learn more, check out this informative video from [CNBC](#).



Energy Co-op Summer Fridays

Beginning Friday May 31, 2024, and ending Friday August 30, 2024, The Energy Co-op staff will observe Summer Fridays, with our office closing at 3:00 pm each Friday. Please plan accordingly for any assistance that you may need on Fridays from our team. We appreciate your cooperation and hope you have a wonderful summer!

Events

[2024 Annual Member Meeting](#)

Thursday, June 27, 5:30pm – 7:00pm

The Philadelphia Masonic Temple, Philadelphia, PA

Join us for our 2024 Annual Member Meeting, where our team will share the progress we have made over the past year and discuss our plans for the remainder of 2024.

[Register for the 2024 AMM](#)

What We're Reading

[Environmentalists battle to get PECO to increase its use of green energy, but the oil industry calls it a job killer](#)

Pennsylvania ranks 50th in the nation for percentage growth in total solar, wind and geothermal generation since 2013, activists fight to change that. Lynette Hazelton, *Philadelphia Inquirer*

[Suburban Philadelphia counties join forces to purchase renewable energy](#)

The Sustainable Energy Partnership of Southeastern Pennsylvania will set

renewable energy guidelines in the coming months.
Emily Neil, *WHYY*

[Solar Power Project Brings Philadelphia's Municipal Electricity to 30% Renewable](#)

Last month, City officials celebrated the completion of the Adams Solar Project. The 70-megawatt solar facility now powers Philadelphia's municipal buildings with approximately 25 percent of electricity needs.

Katherine Leonetti, *Philadelphia Office of Sustainability*

Blog Posts

[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

[Video: Renewable Energy in the 2024 Presidential Election](#)

By Colin Teague, Eric Miller, and Lauren Keller



THE ENERGY CO-OP

Leading the Energy Evolution

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