

TREEDC Newsletter

January, 9, 2012 Volume 1

2012



Quarterly Publication

Upcoming Events

- February 1-3 Congressional Delegation Visit: Washington, DC
- February 24: TREEDC FORUM/GREEN POWER SWITCH SIGN-UP: Hiwassee College: Madisonville, TN
- February 25: TREEDC GREEN POWER SWITCH SIGN-UP: Tennessee Tech University Basketball game vs. Murray State University
- March 9: TREEDC FORUM/GREEN POWER SWITCH SIGN-UP: City of Columbia /Columbia State College

TREEDC LAUNCHES TVA GREEN POWER SWITCH PILOT PARTNERSHIP IN MEMPHIS

More than 90 attendees witnessed the launch of the TREEDC Green Power Switch Pilot Program Initiative with the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) on November 18, 2011 in Memphis. Participation in this program will stimulate more investment in renewable energy in Tennessee. Our sign-up schedule for the first quarter is stated on the left column. Please sign-up at www.greenpowerswitch.com/treedc to enroll in this important program. Please contact us if your community is interested in hosting a sign-up day. The deadline of our pilot program is May 18, 2012.



TREEDC Member/Shelby County Mayor Mark Luttrell urges the crowd to support Green Power Switch pilot partnership with TREEDC and TVA

TREEDC RETURNS TO MEMPHIS



Group photo – front row – left to right – Dennis Tennant, Tennessee Tech University Associate Director of External Relations, Dr. Shari Meghreblian, Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation Deputy Commissioner, Karen Ellis, Fed Ex Director of Corporate Sustainability, Warren Nevad, The University of Tennessee MTAS/TREEDC – Back row – Jackson City Councilman/TREEDC Legal Affairs Ernest Brooks, Ducktown Mayor James Talley, Gibson County Utilities Director Pat Riley, Memphis Councilman Edmund Ford, Jr.

The Mayors of the Tennessee Renewable Energy and Economic Development Council (TREEDC) joined with the University of Tennessee’s Municipal Technical Advisory Service (MTAS), USDA Rural Development, Shelby County Office of Sustainability, the City of Memphis, Memphis Light, Gas and Water MLGW and the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) to sponsor another free community outreach forum to Memphis area citizens and clean energy stakeholders on November 18, 2011. This was the 11th state-wide forum and 2nd forum in Memphis since 2009. This event was organized by TREEDC, a state-wide organization of 65 city and county mayors and businesses dedicated to bringing economic development through renewable energy across the state. A crowd of 92 stakeholders also heard about various clean energy technologies to help Tennessee become more energy independent and to create more green jobs.

Shelby County Mayor Luttrell welcomed the attendees and thanked TREEDC for bringing more renewable energy awareness to the public. MLGW President Jerry Collins praised the

visionary leadership of University of Tennessee President Emeritus Dr. Joe Johnson for uniting local officials across the state to look at ways to encourage more clean energy development in Tennessee. Karen Ellis, FedEx Express Director of Corporate Sustainability informed the group that CEO Frederick Smith wanted FedEx Express to be committed to a cleaner, healthier world which drives the corporation toward energy efficiency programs. President of Memphis Bio works Dr. Steven Bares gave a presentation regarding his organization's energy training and green jobs grant program. Henning Bollerslev of 49 Green gave a PowerPoint presentation about its technology that transforms municipal wastes. Pat Riley, Executive Director of Gibson County Utilities and a founding member of TREEDC highlighted the environmental and economic benefits of natural gas as an alternative transportation fuel for local government's fleets. TREEDC Founding Member Efficient Energy of Tennessee Director of Community Relations Donna Stokes gave an update regarding the 1 MW solar installation at The American Business Center in Jackson, TN, last January. TDED Deputy Commissioner Dr. Shari Meghreblian advised the crowd that TDEC had converted some cabins at state parks to geothermal and solar energy. John Hochstein gave a historical review of the UM Center for Biofuel Energy and Sustainable Technologies (BEST). Dr. Hochstein advised attendees that UM is working on research and development with Greene Turbine, LLC on a fully submerged turbine with the potential to produce utility scale base load power with hydrokinetic technology.

The afternoon session was sponsored by the National Association of Energy Service Companies (NAESCO). Ray Hinson, Regional Director of Energy Systems Group (ESG) and Ameresco Regional Director Stewart Shunk made presentations. Details of the presentations from the forum are available at

<http://www.mtas.tennessee.edu/public/web.nsf/Web/Economic+Development> .

TREEDC HOSTS RENEWABLE ENERGY FORUM IN EAST TENNESSEE

The Mayors of the Tennessee Renewable Energy and Economic Development Council (TREEDC) collaborated with Genera Energy, Tennessee Reservoir Development Agency, Michael Brady, Inc. and Monroe County Office of Economic Development to provide a free community outreach forum to area citizens and clean energy stakeholders on October 7, 2011.

Monroe County Mayor Tim Yates welcomed the 86 attendees and thanked TREEDC President/Pikeville Mayor Greg Johnson for bringing more awareness in renewable energy to the community. TREEDC Chairman/University of Tennessee President Emeritus Dr. Joe Johnson advised the audience that this was TREEDC's 10th forum across the state since

2009. IPS Assistant Vice President Chuck Shoopman mentioned that he is looking forward to witnessing how the mayors will move forward in the future with TREEDC's work of leveraging university resources for community development in renewable energy. Tennessee Department of Agriculture Deputy Commissioner Jai Templeton, a former mayor of McNairy County, informed the group about the Tennessee Agriculture and Forestry Economic Development Task force.

Dr. Sam Jackson with Genera Energy and The University of Tennessee Institute of Agriculture Center for Renewable Carbon gave an overview of the Tennessee Biofuels Initiative. Bill Lee, CEO of Frontline Bioenergy gave suggestions on how to develop regional feedstock delivery systems which would help create markets for renewable energy. Lee also commented that Frontline Bioenergy's partnership with SGC Energia would bring his firm a new focus on liquid hydrocarbons synthesis, also known as the Fischer-Tropsch process. Henning Bollerslev of 49 Green gave a PowerPoint presentation about its technology that converts municipal wastes into synthetic diesel by using a microwave conversion process that does not emit emissions. Dr. Chad Duty explained that the goal of the Department of Energy SunShot program is to reduce the system cost of a solar installation to \$1 per watt in the long term.

TREEDC founding member Leslee Alexander discussed LTA's sustainability consulting work with Gresham, Smith and Partners regarding TVA energy audits. TVA Senior Program Manager Randy Johnson gave an overview regarding the renewable energy opportunities in the TVA/Clean Air Agreements. Johnson informed the membership that TVA will provide \$350 million over 5 years to fund environmental improvement projects. These projects will assist in improving the air quality throughout the Tennessee Valley region. TVA has allocated \$290 million for implemented projects in energy efficiency, renewable energy and other projects. \$60 million is allocated for State Environmental Mitigation Projects. Johnson also reviewed the program for Tennessee Valley Smart Energy Communities.

The networking lunch consisted of a presentation from Assistant Commissioner of State Department of Labor and Workforce Development Iliff McMahan, Jr. The Commissioner gave a comprehensive review of Governor Bill Haslam's Jobs4TN plan.

Martin Penny with Cooley Public Strategies spearheaded the afternoon panel which consisted of presentations of various renewable energy technologies available to local governments across the state. State of Tennessee Economic and Community Development Energy Director Molly Cripps gave an update on the Energy Efficiency Block Grant Program. A total of 134 total grants were awarded to local governments in 65 counties in Tennessee for rounds 1 and 2. Tennessee Solar Energy Association Founder Steve Levy

gave a thorough presentation about the benefits of placing solar arrays on closed landfill sites. Jonathan Overly, Director and Founder of East Tennessee Clean Fuels Coalition gave presentations about emerging alternative transportation fuels available for local government fees. His first PowerPoint gave an update on the status of the ECOTality Electric Vehicle Project. Overly then discussed the opportunities in natural gas as a viable alternative transportation fuel for fleets across Tennessee. He explained the work of the Tennessee Natural Gas Team which is a partnership of TN Clean Cities coalitions, TN Gas Association & other organizations to advance natural gas as transportation fuel in the state.

Details on this program along with all other presentations from the forum will be available shortly at <http://www.mtas.tennessee.edu/public/web.nsf/Web/Economic+Development>



Front row left to right – Emanuel Bailey, TREEDC, Pikeville Mayor/TREEDC President Greg Johnson, Warren Nevad, The University of Tennessee MTAS/TREEDC. Back row – Dr. John Sanseverino, Tennessee Solar Institute, Shan Harris, Monroe County ECD, Mike Tallent, The University of Tennessee IPS, Ducktown Mayor/TREEDC Membership Director James Talley, Chuck Shoopman, The University of Tennessee IPS, Agriculture Deputy Commissioner Jai Templeton, Assistant Commissioner Iliff McMahan, The University of Tennessee President Emeritus Dr. Joe Johnson and Bill Owen, TREEDC Consultant

TREEDC Member Lincoln County Commissions 3 MW Solar Farm with Fayetteville Public Utilities

On October 21, 2011, TREEDC Member Lincoln County opened its 3 megawatts solar farm that was developed by Brown Construction. SolAVerde, based in Fort Royal, Va., helped with installation of the solar panels. Vis Solis, a German-based company with a location in Franklin, Tenn., was instrumental in engineering and equipment for the project. The panels were manufactured by Astronergy.

Vis Solis Managing Partner Tim Hayes praised Lincoln County and Brown Construction for bringing clean energy to the grid and returning economic vitality to Lincoln County. Sixty people were employed during project construction.



Lincoln County's first solar farm on 13 acres

ECD ANNOUNCES \$1.1 MILLION IN ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND CONSERVATION BLOCK GRANTS

On The Tennessee Department of Economic and Community Development announced on December 12, 2011, that 12 additional Tennessee cities and counties were awarded approximately \$1.1 million in Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grants (EECBG). TREEDC Communities receiving grants include: Huntsville, Roane County, Sequatchie County and Somerville. These communities join 134 other Tennessee cities and counties who were awarded \$13 million in EECBG grants in 2010. The grants will enable communities to implement cost-effective strategies which reduce total energy expenses and save taxpayer money through improved energy efficiency in buildings and transportation systems.



“The benefits of the EECBG grants are important to Tennessee and the communities receiving the grants,” Molly Cripps, director, Energy Division, ECD, said. “It is a boost to our state’s energy efficiency efforts, allows communities to reduce energy consumption and cut costs, and creates jobs for Tennesseans.”



Molly Cripps, ECD Energy Director (left) and Waste Management Sustainability Director Jane McNamara at a 2011 TREEDC Forum

Tennesseans Reminded to Submit Applications for Qualifying Energy Star Appliance Rebates

Tennessee Energy Efficiency Appliance Rebates are still available for qualifying Energy Star® room air conditioners, central air conditioners, air source heat pumps and gas furnaces, but time is quickly running out. All applications must be postmarked by Jan. 14, 2012. Appliances purchased since April 22, 2010, are eligible for a rebate debit card on a first-come, first-served basis. Based on current submissions, the Department of Economic and Community Development's Energy Division estimates that \$770,000 will be remaining for the rebates. With this estimate, more than 19,000 rebates, totaling more than \$4.5 million will have been processed and paid to Tennesseans by the end of the year.

Eligible Energy Star® appliances

- (1) Air source heat pumps - \$250 rebate
- (2) Central air conditioners - \$250 rebate
- (3) Room air conditioners - \$40 rebate
- (4) Gas furnaces - \$150 rebate



TENNESSEE SOLAR INSTITUTE RECEIVES GRANT AWARD

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) has awarded a \$622,960 grant to a team led by researchers from the University of Tennessee (UT), Tennessee Solar Institute, and the Howard H. Baker Center for Public Policy. The grant promotes partnerships with utilities and building officials across the state, to implement uniform standards for solar photovoltaic (PV) installations. This grant is one of 22 awards announced by DOE as part of its Rooftop Solar Challenge.

The purpose of this program is to identify barriers to solar adoption and to reduce costs. TREEDC members from Memphis and Franklin will be participating with this grant.



TREEDC ANNOUNCES 2012 MEMBERSHIP CAMPAIGN

TREEDC Chairman/University of Tennessee President Emeritus Dr. Joe Johnson and Membership Director/Ducktown Mayor James Talley launched the 2012 membership drive on December 15, 2011. The goal of this campaign is to enroll 100 city and county mayors to the TREEDC membership. In 2011, 65 city and county mayors joined as 2011 TREEDC members. Other members include the Tennessee Valley Authority, University of Tennessee Institute for Public Service, Tennessee Tech University, Oak Ridge National Laboratory, USDA Rural Development, Genera Energy, Memphis Bioworks, ECotality, Tennessee Departments of Agriculture and Economic and Community Development, Jackson Energy Authority, Gibson County Utilities and many small renewable energy related businesses in Tennessee. The dues for 2012 are unchanged and remain \$100 for any local government, public power/natural gas distributor and K-12 school in Tennessee. There are also membership categories for state agencies, other non-profits, individuals, businesses and colleges and universities. Individuals that sign up to the Green Power Switch program described on page 1 will be afforded individual membership for 2012. TREEDC membership benefits include free access to all forums, and TREEDC local officials, annual report, quarterly newsletters, technical assistance, sponsorship and speaking opportunities. TREEDC also has a Founding Member category which also contains provisions for field visits, special events, legislative outreach and project development. Please contact Director Talley for more information at duckmayor@yahoo.com.



Memphis Light, Gas and Water President Jerry Collins and Ducktown Mayor/TREEDC Membership Director James Talley

TREEDC 2012 TENTATIVE CALENDAR

1. February 1, 2012 -- Washington delegation visit
2. February 24, 2012 -- Hiwassee College, Madisonville, TN TREEDC Forum
3. February 25, 2012 -- Tennessee Tech – Green Power Switch Sign-up
4. March 9, 2012 -- City of Columbia/Columbia State College TREEDC Forum
5. March 30, 2012 -- MTSU/Murfreesboro TREEDC Forum (tentative)
6. April 2012 -- Update to Tennessee General Assembly
7. April 2012 -- Chattanooga Clean Energy Expo
8. April 2012 -- Cleveland Clean Energy Expo
9. April 12, 2012 -- Jackson TREEDC Forum
10. June 2012 -- Franklin TREEDC Forum
11. June 2012 -- TML Reception - Knoxville
12. July 2012 -- Tennessee Tech TREEDC Forum - Golf Tournament for Scholarship
13. September 2012 -- Johnson City/Kingsport TREEDC Forum
14. November 2012 -- Memphis TREEDC Forum



**TENNESSEE RENEWABLE ENERGY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL
(TREEDC) EAST TENNESSEE MEETING**

225 Hiwassee College Dr. Madisonville, TN 37354-4001

February 24, 2012

AGENDA

8:30am

1. Introductions: TREEDC President/Pikeville Mayor Greg Johnson
2. Hiwassee College Welcome Address: Hiwassee College President Robin Tricoli
3. TREEDC 2012 and Beyond: The University of Tennessee President Emeritus Dr. Joe Johnson
4. Tennessee Valley Authority Green Power Switch: Jenny Wright, Tennessee Valley Authority, Green Power Switch Product Manager
5. The University of Tennessee Solar Decathlon: Diane Bossart, The University of Tennessee

Break – 9:45 – 10:00

6. Cleveland State Community College Green Incubator: Allen Gentry, Cleveland State
7. Ducktown Municipal Solar Project: Ben Farmer, Farmer & Associates
8. Rooftop Solar Grant Program: Dr. Sanseverino, Tennessee Solar Institute
9. Switchgrass Conversion to Hydrogen: Harvey Abouelata, ARIES
10. Energy Efficiency for Colleges: Kevin Waters, Johnson Controls

Lunch: 12:30 – Speaker – The UT Biofuels Update – Dr. Kelly Tiller

The forum is free and includes refreshments and lunch. Please RSVP to treedc08@yahoo.com by February 21, 2012. Registrations after February 21 will cost \$15. Seating is limited to 75 seats.



2011 Members

Below is a list of our 2011 members. Membership enrollment for 2011 as of September 1, 2011.

2011 Founding Partners

Asset and Equity Corporation

ECotality North America

Efficient Energy of Tennessee

Gibson County Utilities

Jackson Energy Authority

Lightwave Solar

Maupin Technologies

McBee Bailey & Associates

Tennessee Valley Authority

Choice Solar and Geothermal

Tennessee Department of Economic and Community Development

Ragan-Smith Engineering

Sustainable Futures

Tennessee Department of
Agriculture

Tennessee Soybean Council

Tennessee Tech University

University of Tennessee MTAS

University of Tennessee-
Battelle/ORNL

USDA Rural Development

LTA Consulting

Local Governments

Alexandria	Cumberland County
Algood	Greenback
Baxter	Harriman
Bledsoe County	Hendersonville
Byrdstown	Huntsville
Celina	Jackson
Chattanooga	Jasper
Cleveland	Kimball
Collierville	Kingston
Columbia	LaVergne
Cookeville	Lincoln County
Covington	Livingston
Crab Orchard	Lookout Mountain
Crossville	Madison County
Decatur	Manchester
Ducktown	Marion County
Dunlap	McMinnville
Englewood	Memphis
Franklin	Milan
Gainesboro	Monroe County
Goodlettsville	Monterey
Graysville	Montgomery County

Pikeville	Farmer Morgan LLC
Pleasant Hill	Frontline Bioenergy
Roane County	25x'25 Organization
Rockwood	Roane Alliance
Sequatchie County	Tellico Reservoir Development Agency
Shelby County	Grand Vista Resorts
South Pittsburg	Michael Brady Architect
Sunbright	
Somerville	
Weakley County	
Whitwell	
Winfield	

Organizations

University of Tennessee-CTAS

Columbia State Community College

Memphis BioWorks Foundation

Memphis Light Gas and Water

Jackson Energy Authority

Bi-County Solid Waste Mgt

Clean Cities of Middle TN

Genera Energy

Pathway Lending

Bartlett Chamber

Monroe Co. Economic Dev

