

# TREEDC July 2014

## TREEDC MEMBER CITY OF KNOXVILLE WINS STATEWIDE SUSTAINABILITY AWARD

On June 24, 2014, the Tennessee Municipal League (TML) awarded Knoxville an Excellence in Green Leadership Award at their annual conference in Chattanooga, Tennessee. Knoxville Sustainability Director Erin Burns accepted this prestigious award given by TML, a voluntary, cooperative organization established by the cities and towns of the state for mutual assistance and improvement. TML's primary function is to work with the Tennessee General Assembly on behalf of city governments, promoting legislation helpful to cities, and opposing legislation harmful to cities. Knoxville's notable accomplishments in 2013 include:

Updating Knoxville's Energy & Sustainability Work Plan & Emissions Inventory (online at: <http://www.cityofknoxville.org/sustainability/2014workplan.pdf>);

Winning an IBM Smarter Cities Challenge technical assistance grant and mobilizing a community-wide effort to improve energy efficiency services for Knoxville's lower income residents;

Partnering with the University of Tennessee to launch ZipCar, the community's first public car-sharing program;

Working with the Tennessee Renewable Energy & Economic Development Council (TREEDC) in its educational outreach activities across the state;

Hiring an Alternative Transportation Engineer, a unique position focusing on advancing transportation infrastructure for bicyclists, pedestrians, and transit users; and

Continuing to ramp-up recycling services and facilities by expanding recycling facilities at public facilities, launching recycling at City parks, and creating a new educational website on e-waste ([knoxrecycles.org](http://knoxrecycles.org)).

In 2013, TVA awarded Knoxville a Platinum rating in the TVA Valley Sustainable Communities program. The City of Knoxville has become a national role model in pursuing green initiatives. We are very proud of TREEDC Mayor Madeline Rogero and Erin!



TREEDC President/Ducktown Mayor James Talley and Erin Burns, Knoxville Sustainability

## Upcoming Events

**TREEDC-TTU  
International  
Renewable Energy Conf.**

**October 12-14.  
[https://](https://epay.tntech.edu/C20205_ustores/web/product_detail.jsp?PRODUCTID=610&SINGLESTORE=true)**

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PRODUCTID=610&SINGLE  
ESTORE=true](https://epay.tntech.edu/C20205_ustores/web/product_detail.jsp?PRODUCTID=610&SINGLESTORE=true)**

# TREEDC RETURNS TO HIWASSEE COLLEGE

The Mayors of the Tennessee Renewable Energy and Economic Development Council (TREEDC) held their first 2014 Community Energy forum at Hiwassee College on April 4, 2014. TREEDC 2014 Founding members Hiwassee College, Gibson County Utility District and the University of Tennessee's Institute for Public Service sponsored this free community outreach forum for Hiwassee College students, staff and Monroe County area clean energy stakeholders. Presentations consisted of best campus practices of renewable energy and the State of Tennessee Energy initiatives. Todd Littleton, Hiwassee College Director of Alumni Affairs welcomed TREEDC and expressed his appreciation to the Mayors for organizing the 3rd annual conference at Hiwassee College.

TREEDC Chairman/ University of Tennessee President Emeritus Dr. Joe Johnson traced the origins of TREEDC as an organization that has grown initially from four (4) Tennessee rural cities in 2008 to 96 cities in Tennessee and the Philippines in 2014. Dr. Johnson advised the audience that TREEDC is now providing educational forums to elementary schools across the state. He added that TREEDC recently collaborated with the Tennessee Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Tennessee Energy, Industry and Construction Consortium (TEICC), Tennessee Tech University and the Gibson County Utility District to conduct a statewide essay contest for middle school students to build awareness for careers in renewable energy. Dr. Johnson concluded his remarks by

complimenting the TREEDC Mayors with their innovative work in the Philippines by bringing in new partners to Tennessee renewable energy stakeholders.

The University of Tennessee Public Administration Intern Troy Williamson gave a thorough PowerPoint presentation about renewable energy activities across college campuses across the United States. He mentioned that the University of Tennessee purchased 1,760 CFLs (Compact Fluorescent Lamps) to exchange for bulbs from students' desk lamps, saving \$4,190 and 60 tons of CO<sub>2</sub> in a single semester. According to Williamson, The University of South Carolina is starting a \$19 million high-tech biomass energy plant which will annually consume an estimated 57,000 tons of tree waste and save \$2 million a year in energy costs. MTAS Management Consultant Warren Nevad also gave a PowerPoint presentation about the TREEDC International Exchange Program. The objectives of the Exchange program were to accomplish the following:

Recruit TREEDC sister cities/colleges abroad, exchange information about technology partners in respective countries, develop and replicate TREEDC similar type organizations in 5 countries, attract multinational corporations for corporate social responsibility, advance renewable energy for cities all over the world; and organize an International TREEDC Forum annually.

The TREEDC Mayors selected the Philippines because of its very high



The University of Tennessee President Emeritus Dr. Joe Johnson and Kim Raia, CTAS Solid Waste Consultant network

energy costs, vast renewable energy resources, frequent blackouts and the Renewable Energy Law of 2008. TREEDC believes that there are tremendous educational and business opportunities for our members. As of April 2014, TREEDC has 8 Philippine cities and 12 universities as members. TREEDC has conducted education forums and conferences in five (5) different colleges across the Philippines and is working with E3 integrated Solutions, ARIES Energy and Vis Solis to develop solar and waste to energy facilities in the Philippines. Philippine members will participate in the TREEDC International Renewable Energy Forum to be held at Tennessee Tech University on October 12 – 14, 2014.

Harvey Abouelata, President of ARIES Energy gave an overview of the USDA REAP Program. The USDA REAP is currently accepting applications from Rural Farmers, Ranchers, and Small Businesses for Grants Supporting Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Projects. The Program is designed to promote rural economic development by assisting rural businesses to become more energy efficient and even generate energy from their own renewable systems. Grants may range from \$2,500 to \$500,000, and the funding level this year is expected to match or exceed last year's level. ARIES Energy will prepare all the grant paperwork for organizations to apply for

Pete Westerholm, Program Manager at Office of Energy Programs (OEP), with the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation gave an update regarding recent initiatives. In December 2013, the U.S. Department of Energy awarded OEP \$426,644 for its State Energy Program 2013 Competitive Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) application. Tennessee was just 1 of 6 states to receive funding in the FOA's Area of Interest 3 – Retrofitting Public Buildings. The project objectives are to provide education, outreach, and technical assistance to serve local governments and public housing authorities (PHAs) and to drive demand for energy efficiency investments in the State of Tennessee. The grant period of performance is February 1, 2014 to January 31, 2016. Contact Pete.Westerholm@tn.gov for more information

Max Shilstone, Business Development Director for TREEDC Diamond Member Clean Line Energy Partners described the Plains & Eastern Clean Line Project which will connect Tennessee to superb wind resources of Great Plains with a High Voltage Direct Current (HVDC) transmission line. This planned development is a \$300 million investment in transmission facilities in western Tennessee. Hundreds of direct jobs will be created during construction. Significant property tax revenue will be generated to Tipton and Shelby Counties. Shilstone urged all TREEDC members to provide support for this worthy project.

## TREEDC Member Tennessee Municipal league (TML) Celebrates 75 years of service



From left to right- TREEDC Board Member/Memphis Councilman Dr. Edmund Ford, Jr, Energy Fund Manager Dr. Olin Ivey, Warren Nevad, MTAS/TREEDC and Vivian Wilhoite, Tennessee Regulatory Authority

On June 21-24, the Tennessee Municipal League (TML) celebrated 75 years by hosting its annual conference in Chattanooga. Several hundred local officials from across the state converged to Southeast Tennessee to witness a comprehensive series of workshops, speakers, exhibition of municipal products and services, and receptions with other city leaders.

The exhibit program was an important part of the annual conference. It provided opportunities for information sharing and brought the latest products, services and ideas – direct from the manufacturers, consultants, and specialists who can help you put them to work. Vendor workshops planned in the exhibit hall gave an opportunity to meet and talk with the experts. TREEDC was proud to provide an informational booth at the Conference.

## TREEDC INTERNATIONAL UPDATE: DIRECTOR DOUG JACKSON SPEAKS AT THE 2014 ASIA CLEAN ENERGY FORUM

On June 20, 2014, TREEDC International Affairs Director Doug Jackson gave a presentation about the TREEDC International work before several hundred attendees at the 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Asia Clean Energy Forum in Manila, Philippines. This forum was sponsored by the Asian Development Bank, U.S AID to International Development and the World Energy Council.

Jackson, a retired TVA official participated in the International Collaboration on Energy Technology Development and Deployment Panel. He was joined on the panel with representatives from the International Energy Agency and Meralco, the Philippines' largest distributor of electrical power. The TREEDC presentation provided a chronology of the International Exchange Program. Jackson also provided a review of the public-private approach by TREEDC to advance renewables in the Philippines through its educational outreach, social responsibility and project assistance for its Tennessee members in the Philippines.



Left to right - TREEDC International Affairs Director Doug Jackson and TREEDC Director Warren Nevad enjoy the solar rooftop tour at the Asian Development Bank



## TREEDC VISITS UNIVERSITY OF PASIG CITY AND TECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY OF THE PHILIPPINES

During June 2014, TREEDC International Affairs Director Douglas Jackson and Warren Nevad, TREEDC Director/University of Tennessee MTAS Consultant toured the Pasig City University and Technological University of the Philippines campuses. The purpose of the visits was to follow-up on prior initiatives and to invite presenters for the TREEDC International Conference to be held at Tennessee Tech University from October 12 – 14, 2014.



TREEDC Director Warren Nevad visits with TUP Administration



Director Nevad visits with Pasig City University

## GIBSON COUNTY UTILITY MAKES PROGRESS WITH COMPRESSED NATURAL GAS

TREEDC Gold Member Gibson County Utility District (GCUD) recently committed to a new compressed natural gas fueling facility in Trenton, Tennessee. The new CNG station will be located north of I-40 between Memphis and Nashville with gas to be supplied by Constellation, a unit of Exelon.



TREEDC Board Member/Gibson County Utility District GM Pat Riley wants to build the cleanest and greenest CNG station.

Pat Riley has been building the case for a CNG station for more than two years, says Midwest sales and marketing director Mark Watkins. GCUD designed a station that will include redundant compressors; fast-fill and ultra-fast-fill nozzles; natural gas gen-set for primary compressor power with backup from the grid; a solar array and batteries to supply low-voltage power plus area and canopy LED lighting, each with tertiary power supply from the grid. The Trenton-based Gibson County Utility District distributes natural gas to customers in Tennessee's Gibson, Obion and Dyer Counties.

## NORESCO JOINS TREEDC

The Mayors of TREEDC are proud to announce that NORESKO has joined the TREEDC family in 2014. NORESKO is one of the largest and most experienced Energy Services Companies in the world and has helped hundreds of clients leverage energy savings to fund infrastructure upgrades. NORESKO offers a full suite of sustainable and renewable design consulting services and as a unit of United Technologies, has guaranteed more than \$3 billion in savings at more than 7,000 sites worldwide. NORESKO is opening up operations in Tennessee this summer.

With more than 25 years' experience in the energy and sustainability services field, NORESKO has delivered infrastructure upgrades and operational efficiency at state and local government facilities across the nation. Their custom, turnkey solutions improve system efficiency and reliability while reducing operating cost and deferred maintenance burdens with no upfront capital. They work with customers to secure low-cost financing and grants that further enhance project scope and maximize savings. Best wishes to NORESKO!



Left to right – Brian Stone, Account Executive and JD Lauramore, Senior Account Executive

# 2014 TREEDC State, National and International Renewable Energy Summit



This conference will feature a wide selection of renewable energy approaches and dialogue for networking and fellowship among our supporters in Tennessee and the rest of the world. Our International Renewable Energy Conference will showcase Tennessee and Philippine renewable energy technologies, leaders and local governments and university best practices to our state, national and international members of TREEDC.

## **Registration Options:**

Individual Registration | \$89  
\$99 after August 1, 2014  
Friend Registration | \$500  
Partner Registration | \$1000  
Principal Registration | \$1500  
Premier Registration | \$2000

## **Additional Events - Scholarship**

### **Fundraisers:**

Golf Outing | \$25  
Sunday, October 12th  
9-Holes of Golf—Prizes Awarded  
Guided Westside Walk | \$10  
Monday, October 13th, 6PM  
Food and Drinks not Included

## **Register Online:**

[https://epay.tntech.edu/C20205\\_ustores/web/product\\_detail.jsp?PRODUCTID=610&SINGLESTORE=true](https://epay.tntech.edu/C20205_ustores/web/product_detail.jsp?PRODUCTID=610&SINGLESTORE=true)

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