

In Case You Missed It

January 2021

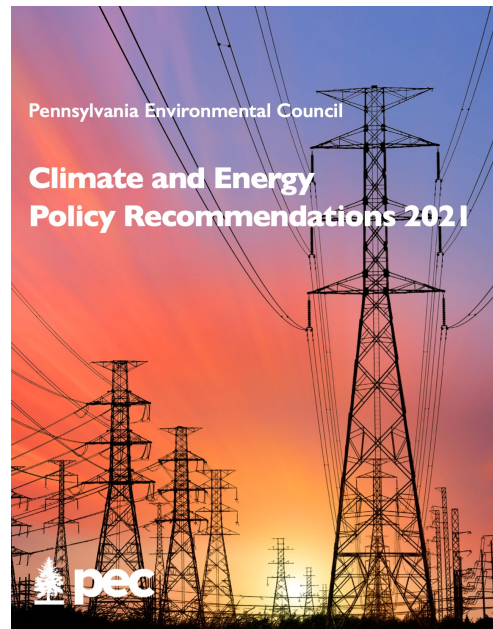


Policy Updates

Updated Climate and Energy Policy Recommendations

PEC has revisited its [2019 Energy and Climate Pathways Report](#) to provide an updated decarbonization roadmap – predicated on an “all in” approach – for policy action during the 2021-2022 state legislative session. This roadmap includes:

- Continuing the process to link with other states in the Mid-Atlantic and Northeast in the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative
- Reforming the Alternative Energy Portfolio Standards into a Clean Energy Standard
- Creating or enhancing tax credits, grants, loans, or other financial incentives for energy efficiency and energy use reduction, as well as strengthening and expanding existing Act 129 energy efficiency programs and weatherization programs
- Adopting measures to promote community solar and grid modernization
- Adopting policies and incentives to support installation of distributed energy resources, including renewables and energy storage
- Advancing measures to facilitate clean energy development, including with regard to contracting and siting
- Considering new or enhanced financial incentives and otherwise leveraging state resources to help bring other zero-carbon technologies to commercial readiness in Pennsylvania



The Clean Energy Transition Won't Wait



In January, PEC joined the Environmental Defense Fund in submitting [comments](#) to the Environmental Quality Board in support of the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection's (DEP) proposal to set a declining limit on carbon pollution emitted by in-state fossil fuel generating units by linking to the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI).

PEC has [long identified](#) RGGI as a market-friendly, flexible platform to address CO2 emissions in the electricity sector. With a

track record of success, RGGI has proven to reduce emissions, not adversely impact consumer prices, and return significant investment-ready proceeds to participating states.

A summary of the comment highlights as well as the full comments can be found [here](#).

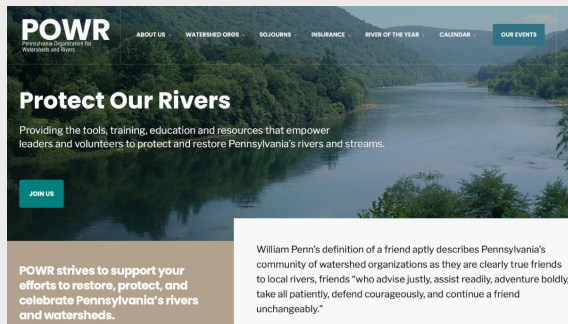
PEC Blog

Check It Out: POWR Launches Redesigned Website

This past month, The Pennsylvania Organization for Watersheds and Rivers (POWR) took on the task of redesigning its website to provide better access to the tools and resources that will support the efforts of community watershed organizations across the state.

The [new site](#) features a modern design that facilitates easy access to essential information including upcoming training events, grant programs, important news, and opportunities to celebrate and enjoy PA's river and streams.

Learn more [here](#).



Fostering New Connections in the Laurel Highlands

Recognizing that knowledgeable recommendations are invaluable to visitors, the PA Park and Forest Managers and members of the LHCL Tourism Committee developed a training program for staff members who frequently interact with the visiting public. This new training program gives interpreters, visitor center assistants, maintenance workers, administrative



assistants, and rangers the opportunity to visit popular sites so they are more prepared to help park visitors.

Learn more [here](#).

Pennsylvania Legacies



Room to Grow

All over the country, consumers want locally grown food. Montgomery County has a solution to the growing demand: a third of its farmland will remain in agricultural use permanently, thanks to Montco's wildly successful Farmland Preservation Program. Administrator Stephen Zbyszinski joins us to celebrate a major milestone: 10,000 acres preserved and counting!

LISTEN



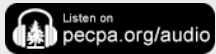
Watershed Showdown

Before voting closed for the 2021 Pennsylvania River of the Year finalists, nominating watershed groups had the opportunity to tell us about their rivers and make a final pitch for the public's vote.

LISTEN

 *The Pennsylvania Legacies podcast features conversations with community leaders, experts, thinkers, and citizens on the most important environmental and conservation issues facing Pennsylvania.*

New episodes are posted every other Friday at pecpa.org/audio and are available on most podcast platforms.



SUBSCRIBE

PEC In the News

[TribLive](#)
January 28, 2021
[Allegheny County inks 35-year deal](#)



[to use hydropower generated in Emsworth for government buildings](#)

The power used by the Allegheny County Courthouse, jail and other government buildings will be generated by hydroelectric energy harnessed from the Emsworth Lock and Dam. Read more [here](#).

More News...

[EDF Blog](#)

January 25, 2021

[Public comment period on RGGI wraps up, moving Pennsylvania closer to slashing power plant carbon pollution](#)

[Bay Journal](#)

January 11, 2021

[States mull conservation action under shadow of COVID-19](#)

Press Releases

- [Shenango River Named PA 2021 River Of The Year In Public Voting](#)
- [POWR Announces 2021 Pennsylvania Sojourn Grants Now Available](#)



Stay connected

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