

# the energy **CONNECTION**

SEPTEMBER 2021

## October is Energy Action Month

October is Energy Action Month, an event meant to encourage energy savings through efficiency and conservation. To further encourage energy reduction in our state, the Energy Office will hold its annual SC Energy Hour on October 6, 2021 from 10:06 - 11:06 AM.

More information can be found on the Energy Office website at [ENERGY.SC.GOV/EnergyActionMonth](https://ENERGY.SC.GOV/EnergyActionMonth).



## Solar Farm Decommissioning Stakeholder Group

The South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (SCDHEC) is directed to develop regulations and guidance on the end-of-life management of solar panels and batteries as well as the decommissioning of solar projects in excess of 13 acres. The ORS is a member of this stakeholder group, providing data and information to help inform the regulations.



For more information, visit [SCDHEC's website](#).

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## New Video Demonstrations of Energy Lesson Plans

The Energy Office has developed ten free K-12 energy lesson plans specifically for South Carolina teachers to use and has been working to publish videos to accompany the lessons. These lessons align with the South Carolina Science Standards and indicate the grade level covered by the standard. Lesson topics include renewables, energy conservation, green buildings, energy sources, and transportation.

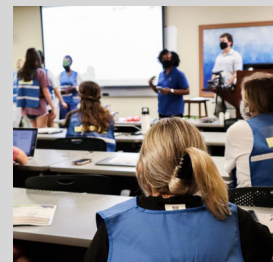


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## Staff Shares Energy Education Lessons with UofSC Class

Earlier this month, Stacey Washington shared information on the Energy Office's free K-12 energy lesson plans to a University of South Carolina class of future educators.

Learn more about these [lesson plans and other energy education resources](#).



## Registration Open: 2021 ASCEM Fall Conference

The 2021 Association of South Carolina Energy Managers (ASCEM) Fall Conference will be held virtually October 5-7, 2021. Registration information and a draft agenda are available on the [ASCEM conference page](#) of the Energy Office website.



[Register](#)

## ASCEM Scholarship Nominations Due March 1st

The Mark A. Martin ASCEM Scholarship is designed to assist ASCEM members with higher education expenses of their family members. The student must be a graduating senior from a South Carolina school and must plan to continue their education in some form after graduation. Applications for the \$1,000 scholarship are due March 1, 2022.

[Learn more](#)

## Southeast States Launch Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Planning Tool

States and territories participating in the Southeast Regional Electric Vehicle Information Exchange (SE REVI) have launched a multi-state [electric vehicle \(EV\) infrastructure map](#) to enable coordination across the region on electric vehicle (EV) infrastructure investments. The Energy Office plays an integral role with counterparts throughout the Southeast in providing information on EV infrastructure deployments and planning.

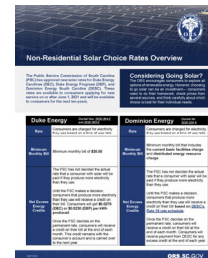


[Read more](#)

## Solar Choice Rates Overviews

The ORS has published an overview of Residential and Non-Residential Solar Choice Rates in South Carolina. Both overviews can be found on the [South Carolina Energy Freedom Act](#) page under “Solar Choice Metering Tariffs.”

- [Residential Solar Choice Rates- ORS Overview \(PDF\)](#)
- [Non-Residential Solar Choice Rates- ORS Overview \(PDF\)](#)



## SC Department of Consumer Affairs Releases Required Documents for Solar Installers

**RENEWABLE ENERGY**  
*What You Need to Know*



The [South Carolina Energy Freedom Act \(Act 62\)](#) directed the ORS to develop consumer protection regulations for the leasing of renewable energy generation facilities. Act 62 also directed the South Carolina Department of Consumer Affairs to develop consumer-protection regulations for the sale of renewable energy generation facilities.

- [Marketing Pamphlet \(PDF\)](#) - This pamphlet explains the rights and responsibilities of consumers who are marketed renewable energy facilities, including solar.
- [Standard Disclosure \(PDF\)](#) - The standard disclosure is used in the sale or lease of renewable energy facilities, including solar.

## Introducing the USDOE Communities LEAP (Local Energy Action Program) Pilot



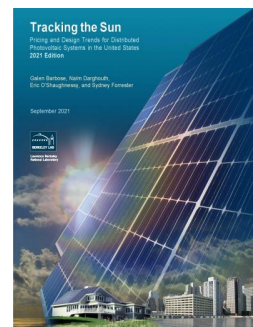
Communities LEAP is a new US Department of Energy (USDOE) pilot initiative to support communities currently experiencing either direct environmental justice impacts, or direct economic impacts from a shift away from a historical reliance on fossil fuels. Under this pilot initiative, USDOE will provide technical assistance services valued at up to a total of \$16 million to support 24-36 communities to develop their own community-driven clean energy transition approach.

[Learn more](#)

## Updated Report and Data Illustrate Distributed Solar Pricing and Design Trends

Berkeley Lab's annual [Tracking the Sun](#) report describes trends among grid-connected, distributed solar photovoltaic (PV) systems in the United States. The latest edition of the report is based on data from roughly 2.2 million systems, covering 79 percent of all distributed PV systems installed nationally through year-end 2020.

[Learn more](#)



## SCRA Funding Opportunities Available

South Carolina Research Authority (SCRA) is a public, non-profit corporation that fosters South Carolina's innovation economy by supporting entrepreneurs, enabling academic research and commercialization, and connecting industry to innovators.



Learn more about these funding opportunities on the [SCRA website](#).

## Upcoming Events



**Energy Action Month**  
*October 2021*

[Learn more](#)



**ASCEM Fall Conference**  
*October 6, 2021*  
Virtual

[Learn more](#)



**Sustainable Fleet Technology Conference**  
*September 9 - October 19, 2021*  
Virtual

[Learn more](#)



**SC Electric Vehicle Stakeholder Initiative Workshop**  
*October 28, 2021*  
Virtual

[REGISTER](#)



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Virtual

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**SC Clean Energy Conference and  
Southeast Energy Law Seminar**  
*December 8 - 10, 2021*  
Greenville, SC



[Learn more](#)

## Additional News & Resources

[Cypress Creek Renewables Expanding Operations in Anderson County](#)

[EERE Announces Intent to Launch New Inclusive Energy Innovation Prize](#)

[Energy Office Hosts Successful South Carolina Wind Energy Workshop](#)

### About the South Carolina Energy Office

The Energy Office, housed within the South Carolina Office of Regulatory Staff, serves as the principal energy planning entity for the state. The mission of the Energy Office is to advance South Carolina’s energy strategy and policy through education and outreach. The Energy Office promotes the efficient use of all energy sources. In addition, the Energy Office encourages energy efficiency, renewable energy, and clean transportation through a broad range of initiatives that include developing the State Energy Plan, providing technical assistance, offering financial assistance, conducting education and outreach, and maintaining an energy data resource.



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