

# the energy CONNECTION

NOVEMBER 2021

## Saving Energy this Holiday Season

The holidays are a time of family and food, fond memories, and bright lights. It can be easy to forget about being energy-conscious as we light up our homes in celebration. With the holidays just around the corner, the Energy Office wants to remind everyone about ways to keep your energy costs down. The Energy Office launched an online Energy Saver tool and website in 2020 that can be accessed at [EnergySaver.SC.GOV](https://EnergySaver.SC.GOV). This tool offers an easy way for the public to answer a few simple questions and be shown energy-saving and financing programs available to them in one central, online location. Users can also search programs by category or by program name to find specific program information.



[Learn more](#)

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### **ASCEM Scholarship Nominations Due February 15th**

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 February 15, 2022.



[Learn more](#)

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### **ASCEM Award Nominations**

During the 2022 Tri Association Conference, awards will be given for [Energy Manager of the Year and Energy Project of the Year](#). Applications are due February 15, 2022.



[Learn more](#)

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### **Energy Office Awards \$65,000 in Mini-Grants for Innovative Energy-Reducing Projects**

This year, eight (8) projects were awarded funds totaling over \$65,000 through the Energy Office

Mini-Grant Program. The two-phase project will add solar arrays to the roofs of 15 district campuses and are designed to achieve nearly \$57 million in energy savings during the next 20 years as Richland One aims to achieve net-zero energy consumption.

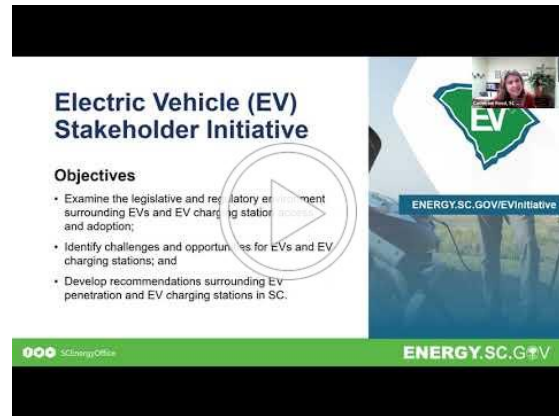


[Learn more](#)

## Electric Vehicle Stakeholder Initiative Webinar Recording Now Available

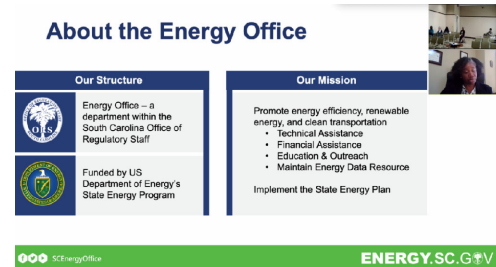
The Energy Office successfully held a virtual Electric Vehicle Stakeholder Initiative Workshop on October 28, 2021 to discuss the challenges and opportunities of expanding electric vehicle adoption in South Carolina.

[Learn more](#)



## Energy Office Presents at 2021 South Carolina Association of Community Action Partnerships Statewide Conference

Senior Energy Specialist Stacey Washington, spoke at the 2021 South Carolina Association of Community Action Partnerships Statewide Mid-Fall Hybrid Training Conference on November 2, 2021 about engaging with the Energy Office and resources available to consumers.



## Congregational Energy Efficiency Challenge

The Congregational Energy Efficiency Challenge (CEEC) is a South Carolina Interfaith Power and Light (SCIPL) program that helps South Carolina faith communities make energy efficiency upgrades to their houses of worship, while equipping them to serve as advocates for earth care within their community. Through their partnership with the South Carolina State Energy Office, they were able to provide two energy audits to two Greenville area churches. With these audits completed, SCIPL will work alongside these churches to address energy inefficiencies, such as outdated HVAC units or lighting. In addition to these congregations, two other communities of faith have developed Earth Care Covenants and will complete energy audits and energy efficiency projects. Stay tuned for continued updates as this year's congregations progress.

[Learn more.](#)

CONGREGATIONAL  
**ENERGY  
EFFICIENCY  
CHALLENGE**



## **New Solar Arrays Projected to Save Richland One \$57 Million**

A new project between Richland County School District One and Schneider Electric is projected to reduce Richland County School District One's energy bills by nearly 73 percent when completed in 2022.

The two-phase project will add solar arrays to the roofs of 15 district campuses and guarantee Richland One nearly \$57 million in energy savings during the next 20 years as the district aims to achieve net-zero energy consumption.



[Learn more](#)

## **Energy Storage for Social Equity Initiative**

The US Department of Energy's (USDOE) Energy Storage for Social Equity (ES4SE) Initiative offers direct technical assistance to communities affected by unreliable and expensive energy systems and supplies. Through this program, eligible communities have access to direct non-financial technical assistance and potential support for new energy storage project development and deployment. Applications are due by December 3, 2021 at 5 PM PST.



[Read more](#)

## **Company Opens First North American Offshore Wind Cable Facility in Charleston, SC**

Nexans announced the opening of the first US-based subsea high-voltage cable facility in Charleston, SC on November 9, 2021. It is the only facility in North America with such capability. From the Charleston facility,

Nexans will deliver subsea cables up to 525kV HVDC and 400kV HVAC, covering the full range of needed products for export cables for offshore wind and subsea interconnectors. The first subsea high voltage export cable will be delivered to an offshore windfarm in the United Kingdom beginning 2022.



[Learn more](#)

## USDOE: Communities Local Energy Action Program Pilot

The US Department of Energy's (USDOE) *Communities: Local Energy Action Program* (Communities LEAP) pilot initiative partners with communities across the nation to build community-driven action plans for clean energy-related economic development. Through Communities LEAP, USDOE will provide support from the top experts in clean energy and economic development to 24-36 competitively selected communities while they develop action plans for clean energy transitions. This opportunity is specifically open to low-income, energy-burdened communities that are also experiencing environmental justice concerns, or direct economic impacts resulting from a shift away from a historical reliance on fossil fuels. Applications are due December 17, 2021 at 5:00 PM EST



[Learn more](#)

## Upcoming Events



**SUPERIOR ENERGY MANAGEMENT  
CREATES ENVIRONMENTAL LEADERS**

**Training Opportunities with  
ENERGY STAR**  
Virtual

[Learn more](#)



**Top Energy Savers: Lighting  
Webinar**  
December 2, 2021  
Virtual

[Learn more](#)



**Southeast Energy Insecurity  
Stakeholder Initiative**  
December 7, 2021  
Virtual



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

[Learn more](#)

[Learn more](#)



SC Tri Association of Facility Managers

**Save the Date: Tri-Association Conference**

March 12 - 15, 2022

Myrtle Beach, SC

[Learn more](#)

## Additional News & Resources

[Participating in Power: How to Read and Respond to Integrated Resource Plans - A Guide for Local Governments and Other Advocates](#)

[USDA REAP Energy Audit and Renewable Energy Development Assistance Program](#)

### 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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EnergySaver.SC.GOV

PalmettoCleanFuels.org

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