

The Metropolitan Edison Company/Pennsylvania Electric Company

SUSTAINABLE ENERGY FUND 

Report of 2020 Activities

April 29, 2021

Our Mission is to Promote:

- The development and use of renewable and clean energy technologies;
- Energy conservation and efficiency;
- Sustainable energy businesses;
- And projects that improve the environment in the Metropolitan Edison Company/Pennsylvania Electric Company service territories, as they relate to the companies' transmission and distribution facilities.

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2020 Advisory Committee

Ms. Marybeth Smialek (Chair)	Rep. FirstEnergy
Mr. Brian Hill (Vice Chair)	Rep. At-Large
Mr. Timothy Booth	Rep. Electricity Suppliers
Mr. Frank Plank	Rep. Industrial Users
Mr. Dave Vollero	Rep. Independent Power Producers
Ms. Beverly Weaver	Rep. Weatherization
Mr. Davitt Woodwell	Rep. Environmental

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Staff

Mike Kane

Angie Berzonski

Penelec Sustainable Energy Fund
Community Foundation for the Alleghenies



Heidi Williamson

Met-Ed Sustainable Energy Fund
Berks County Community Foundation



Scott Gebhardt

Pennsylvania Public Utilities Commission

2020 Approvals

From January 1, 2020 – December 31, 2020, the funds approved **\$1,032,027** in total financing. This included **13 grants** totaling **\$532,027** and **1 loan** totaling **\$500,000**.

2020 Financing

Fleetwood Area Public Library	Energy Efficiency Retrofit	\$15,000
Greater Easton Development Partnership	Energy Efficiency Upgrades & Solar Array	\$49,000
Forks Township	LED Light Fixtures	\$8,577
City of Erie	Fire Station Solar	\$25,000
Indiana Co. Conservation District	New Building Energy Efficiency Components	\$10,000
The Learning Lamp	LED Lighting and Insulation	\$9,000
Christian Camps of Pittsburgh	Shower House Solar and Skylights at Summer's Best 2 Weeks	\$11,450
Somerset Co. Mobile Food Bank	Solar (and LEDs)	\$20,000
Brownstown Borough	Exterior LED Lighting Retrofit	\$5,000
City of Johnstown	Roxbury Park LED Lighting	\$7,000
Huntingdon Borough	Exterior LED Lighting Retrofit	\$7,000
Green Building Alliance	Erie 2030 District Support (Over 2 Years)	\$25,000
Solarflux	Solar Thermal	\$340,000
Community Solar	Solar Installation (Loan)	\$500,000

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Since Inception

The Met-Ed/Penelec SEF has approved:

- **245 grants** totaling **\$5,069,852**
- **50 loans** totaling **\$25,043,724**
- **3 equity investments** totaling **\$1,600,000**

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2020 Focus

Strategic Plan Goal #4, Support Research & Development

- One grant of up to \$340,000
- Applied R&D project in Pa., with territory preference
- Goal of driving down energy consumption AND closing the gap on the cost difference between traditional technologies and renewables, making renewables a more attractive investment option
- Focus on test and/or pilot technologies and applications, not building retrofits or system/component installations

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2020 Focus

Project should impact at least one of the following:

- Battery storage tied to renewables and/or resiliency
- Grid resiliency with an emphasis on advanced controls for economically integrating renewables
- Hydroelectric power
- Carbon capture and storage, with an emphasis on projects that repurpose the carbon in a way that decreases energy consumption
- Other breakthrough technology resulting in a significant reduction of kilowatt hours, driving down energy consumption

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2020 Focus

Eligible Applicants

- Educational institutions in Pennsylvania
- Applied research centers in Pennsylvania
- Early stage start-ups (new LLCs or branches of existing corporations, not individuals) located in Pennsylvania

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Solarflux



\$340,000 grant will improve the efficiency of constructing their parabolic dish concentrator

Solarflux



Significantly reducing the unit cost of the concentrator would be a major step towards putting it within reach of a much wider potential user base.

2021 Goals

- **Goal One:** Provide up-front capital where needed in the form of grants or program-related investments to advance projects and support renewables.
 - *Release a competitive grant application based on the best practices for the funds in January 2021.*
 - *Allocate 1/3 of available funds to these projects.*
 - *Promote grant cycle(s) within the territories.*
 - *Follow up with 2019 and 2020 grantees to determine progress on projects.*



2021 Goals

- **Goal Two:** Provide grants to support education, training, and workforce development in the renewable/sustainable energy field.
 - *Monitor the workforce development programs that were approved for funding in 2019 within the fund territories that provide training for the installation and maintenance of renewable energy systems.*
 - *Monitor priorities and funding be made available via the new administration.*
 - *Consider launching a second RFP for workforce development programs in 2021.*

2021 Goals

- **Goal Three:** Support energy efficiency efforts by providing grants for the creation of educational materials and grants or program-related investments to support buildings and retrofits.
 - *Promote PennTAP's Energy Audit Toolkit.*
 - *Monitor the work done by selected engineering firms that conducted ten unbiased energy audits within each territory.*
 - *Consider developing and deploying an RFP to provide a substantial grant to a signature building or retrofit project within each territory.*

2021 Goals

- **Goal Four:** Provide grants to support research and development efforts at colleges and universities, particularly for programs that will close the gap on the cost difference between traditional energy technologies and renewables.
 - *Monitor R&D grant awarded in 2020.*
 - *Determine need for additional R&D grant rounds.*
 - *Revise RFP as necessary if additional grant rounds are warranted.*
 - *Release RFP and conduct due diligence on responses, if additional grant rounds are warranted.*



2021 Goals

- **Goal Five:** Participate in relevant activities of state, regional, and national sustainable energy networks.
 - *Monitor availability of workshops/conferences dealing with issues affecting the Fund.*
 - *Participate with other state, regional, and national staff to create sustainable energy projects.*
 - *Work with other state, regional, and national boards and staffs to explore other possible sources of funding for sustainable energy projects.*
 - *Provide PAPUC with relevant and up-to-date information on the activities of the Fund.*

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www.metedpenelecsef.org

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