

NCTCOG Energy Management & Renewable Energy Newsletter

July 2019



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NCTCOG Energy Management and Renewable Energy Resources

- Go Solar Texas - www.gosolartexas.org
- Conserve North Texas - www.conservenorthtexas.org
- NCTCOG Energy Management and Renewable Energy - <https://www.nctcog.org/envir/natural-resources/energy-efficiency>
- Dallas-Fort Worth Clean Cities Coalition - www.dfwcleancities.org

News & Updates

Texas LoanSTAR Revolving Loan Open Enrollment Period Closing August 30, 2019

The Texas LoanSTAR (Saving Taxes and Resources) Revolving Loan finances energy-related, cost-reduced retrofits of facilities supported by the state, including public school districts and public colleges and universities, as well as units of local government such as counties, cities, towns, public hospital taxing districts or political subdivisions ([10 Tex. Gov. Code §2305.032](#)). The Texas LoanSTAR revolving loan program open enrollment period is open through August 30, 2019. For more information and to access the LoanSTAR Application, visit <https://comptroller.texas.gov/programs/seco/funding/loanstar/>.

NCTCOG Energy Management for Local Governments Workshop Follow Up

The NCTCOG would like to thank all who joined us at the Lowering Local Government Energy Consumption Through Energy Planning and Policies workshop on June 28, 2019. The workshop provided information on the following topics:

- Establishing energy plans and policies

- Internal policy and program changes to avoid energy waste through behavior and Operation & Maintenance Changes
- Statutory reporting requirements for cities, counties, state agencies, and institutes of higher education
- Resources provided by the State Energy Conservation Office and the NCTCOG

Those who missed the event can review presentations and handouts below.

Presentations

- [NCTCOG Workshop Introduction](#)
- [Energy Management Policy and Plans](#)
- [Energy Savings and Maintenance & Operation Practices](#)
- [NCTCOG and SECO Resources](#)

Handouts

- [SECO Technical Assistance Letter](#)
- [SECO Technical Assistance Service Request Form \(Form #50-855\)](#)
- [SECO SB898 \(82R\) Reporting Form](#)
- [Preliminary Energy Assessments \(PEAs\)](#)
- [Energy Efficient Reporting Requirements in Texas Matrix](#)
- [Why Energy Use Matters](#)
- [Conserve North Texas](#)
- [EVNT & Funding Opportunities for Fleets](#)

Policy Updates: K-12 Reporting and Light Bulbs

Last month the re-authorization of Local Government Energy Efficiency and Reporting requirements by SB 241(86R) was announced. The bill extended the requirement for local governments in affected counties to develop a plan to reduce electricity consumption and report on progress to the State Energy Conservation Office through 2026.

Independent school districts in Texas are similarly mandated to plan for electricity reduction and report of progress per Texas Education Code Section 44.902. However, [SB668\(86R\)](#) and [SB1376\(86R\)](#) repealed TEC Sec 44.903, which previously mandated school districts to purchase the most energy efficient and cost-effective lighting available.

SPEER Welcomes New Executive Director

SPEER is excited to announce their new Executive Director, Todd McAlister! He will be replacing Chris Herbert as she transitions into retirement. Prior to joining SPEER, Todd was the Executive Director of the Texas Air Conditioning Contractors

Association (TACCA) from 2000 to 2019 and will be instrumental in the development and support of new programs, new funding opportunities and SPEER membership growth and involvement. Find out more info about Todd, [here](#).

Interested in Learning if CHP is a Good Fit for Your Organization?

The Department of Energy's Combined Heat and Power Technical Assistance Partnerships (CHP-TAP) promote and assist in transforming the market for CHP, waste heat to power (WHP), and district energy technologies and/or concepts throughout the U.S. Key services include: End User Engagement, Stakeholder Engagement, and Technical Services (screenings, etc.). For a no-cost analysis to see if CHP would be worth considering at your site, contact the Southcentral/Upper West CHP Technical Assistance Partnership. If you missed a workshop or webinar, find many of the presentations [here](#).

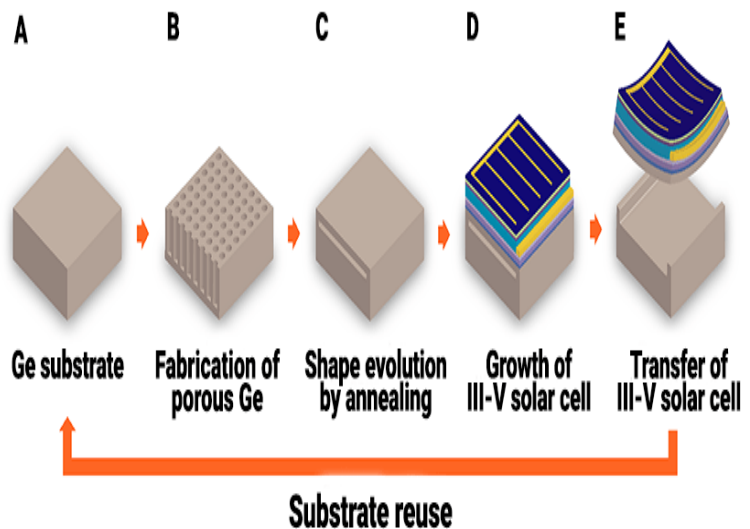
Contact Gavin Dillingham at gdillingham@harcresearch.org to learn more.

'Nothing' Technology Creates Less- Expensive Thin-Film Solar Cells

Gallium arsenide (GaAs) is an important conductor material for high-cost, high-efficiency solar cells. It is used for single-crystalline thin film solar cells and for multi-junction solar cells. GaAs is rarer than gold, making it extremely expensive.

The potential to cheaply produce GaAs became closer to a reality with a discovery of a way to reuse a surface on which the cells are made. Solar cells that are made from elements on the third and fifth columns of the periodic table (such as GaAs) have been shown to be highly efficient at converting sunlight to energy, but their high cost pose a challenge. With this discovery we are one step closer to more affordable and more efficient solar power!

Detailed Findings: www.cell.com
Read the entire article: www.nrel.gov



Co-Optima Makes Progress on Fuel Efficiency

Researchers with the Co-Optimization of Fuels & Engines (Co-Optima) initiative have identified the six blend stocks from two chemical families that exhibit the greatest potential to dramatically increase efficiency when combined with petroleum-based fuels in boosted (or turbocharged) spark-ignition engines for light-duty vehicles. Starting off with over 400 candidates to pick from, the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) is helping to lead this landmark project in collaboration with eight other national labs and 13 universities.

Read the full article, [here](#).

Upcoming Events



Webinar: How to Track Waste and Materials Management in Portfolio Manager

In addition to bench marking energy and water use in Portfolio Manager, you can measure and track waste & materials generated by your building. Upgrade from the cumbersome spreadsheet you have been using, or get started for the first time, and learn how to use the waste tracking feature. Read more about the webinar, [here](#).

Date: Tuesday July 9th, 2019

Time: 12:00 pm

Speaker: Andrew Schulte, ICF

Webinar: Renewable Compliance Standards and Challenges of Extreme Weather

The webinar will discuss the ERCOT protocols and the PUCT rules governing resource preparedness, as well as identify compliance strategies for standards most likely to challenge renewable resources this summer. Read more about the webinar, [here](#).

Date: Wednesday, July 10th, 2019

Time: 12:00 pm

Speaker: Chris Reeder, Randy Jones

Webinar: Energy Codes for Architects

Building energy codes can be daunting in their size and complexity, this webinar outlines the structure and effective use of these codes.

Duane Jonlin, FAIA, is the Energy Codes Adviser for the City of Seattle. Prior to joining the City of Seattle he had 30 years' experience as a technical architect for large institutional projects. Read more about the webinar, [here](#).



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Date: Thursday, July 11th, 2019

Time: 12:00 pm - 1:30 pm

Speaker: Duane Jonlin, City of Seattle

Register here: <https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/7791315715908435459>



Webinar: Beat the Peak- Using Water Wisely for Commercial Outdoor Spaces

Outdoor water use peaks during the summer, raising water bills and straining water supplies. Learn how to design and maintain attractive, healthy landscapes while minimizing irrigation and water losses during the dry summer months and throughout the year. Lower overall operating costs and prepare for outdoor water use restrictions with strategies to manage irrigation systems effectively to prevent inefficiencies and leaks. Read more about the webinar, [here](#).

Date: Wednesday July 17th, 2019

Time: 12:00 pm

Speaker: Tara O'Hare, EPA's WaterSense Program

CELC City Efficiency
Leadership Council



CELC Webinar: Don't Miss Your Chance to Influence Energy Code!

The International Energy Conservation Code (IECC) establishes the baseline efficiency of buildings throughout Texas and Oklahoma. The code is updated every three years and final updates are determined by Government Member Voting Representatives (GMVRs). Although the energy code has considerable impact on the efficiency of the built environment, voter participation in the code development process is lacking. According to the Energy-Efficient Codes Coalition, of the 20,000 possible voters in the last code cycle, only about 500 voted on IECC proposals.

Date: Thursday, July 18th, 2019

Time: 9:00 am - 10:00 am

Speaker: Richard Morgan, Senior Energy Code Manager, SPEER

Register: https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_xiFPKcj7ROKXbWNZkYacUA



Webinar: How to Leverage Brokers to Promote Energy Efficiency

Training brokers to promote the energy performance and sustainability achievements of your buildings is key to attracting clients and executing green leases. Three ENERGY STAR Commercial Real Estate Partners will share how they provide energy efficiency training for brokers and recognize their accomplishments. Read more about the Webinar, [here](#).

Date: Thursday, July 18th, 2019

Time: 2:00 pm

Speaker: Rachel Schiffan, Sara Neff, Jennifer Leitsch

CELC City Efficiency
Leadership Council



CELC Summer 2019 Roundtable - Gulf Coast Region

The International Energy Conservation Code (IECC) establishes the baseline efficiency of buildings throughout Texas and Oklahoma. Whether you are just getting started with efficiency or have recently completed a project, CELC's bi-annual regional roundtables are an opportunity to grow your professional network, gain technical expertise, and find inspiration for your next energy efficiency project!

Date: Thursday, August 1st, 2019

Time: 11:30 am - 1:30 pm

Speaker: Jim Brown, SECO Resources for Texas Cities

Register

Here: <https://eepartnership.org/events/events/#!event/register/2019/8/1/city-efficiency-leadership-council-summer-2019-roundtable-north-texas>

For questions or additional information on any of these items, please contact:

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View additional events and training

opportunities at www.nctcog.org/envir/events

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North Central Texas
Council of Governments



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