

**Renew Ohio 18 Advanced Energy Working Group
focus group results**

April 11, 2008

Topic question: What actions, programs and opportunities can we identify to promote the expansion of advanced energy in the economic redevelopment of our region?

Consensus results:

- **Education (colleges, universities, schools)**

- Intense conservation education with incentives
- Begin green energy education in high school
- Conservation and efficiencies: promotion, incentives and education
- Marketing program (business education) for K-12 employment opportunities in advanced engineering
- Educational programs
- Existing companies to extend internships to students
- Promote knowledge of universities/colleges to the small start-up businesses and partnering for development
- Give colleges and schools help to train/teach advanced energy
- Analysis of collaboration of universities and colleges
- Utilize the opportunities within the schools (STEM)

- **Waste, wastewater and recycling**

- Utilize any/all waste products as an energy source (plastics, tires, etc.)
- Development of biodiesel from algae produced from domestic wastewater treatment facilities
- Energy recovery from waste
- Requirement of bio gas generation at all municipalities' waste water treatment plants
- Waste water treatment digester technology, waste screenings
- Incentive for recycled oil (cooking oil) users/producers
- Major recycling (specifically recycling of tires)
- Mandate recycling (state and federal)

- **Incentives**

- Incentives for green upgrades (energy) for manufacturing (tech.) and infrastructure
- Provide incentives to small scale alternative energy. Make for easy sale of excess to utility companies
- Creating incentives for home owners to utilize green energy alternatives
- Tax incentives for production and consumption (Ohio) of all advanced energy
- Promote fair trade (not a cap) and a low carbon incentive (not a tax)

- **Coal**

- Clean coal technology sequestration
- Build a new/modern clean coal plant (lots of jobs, using local resources)
- Continued promotion of clean coal technologies
- Gasoline from coal
- Development of coal-based power generation for trains
- Clean coal
- True cost coal (mountain top removal vs. deep mine)

- **Conservation and efficiency**

- Rate decoupling/incentivize utilities to promote customer conservation
- Conservation and efficiencies: promotion, incentives and education
- More money to conservation (i.e. corn and bean)
- Conservation/efficiency leads to renewable sources and job creation
- Recreation facility a model of energy efficiency
- Saving energy through energy efficiency

- **Tax credits**

- Tax credits for new and existing business (i.e. green energy)
- Tax credits to change existing infrastructure to advanced energy infrastructure
- Incorporate waste utilization and energy audits/efficiency, perhaps by tax credits
- Tax incentives for production and consumption (Ohio) of all advanced energy

- **Alternative fuels**

- Making alternative fuel vehicles for purchase a priority in Ohio
- Promoting biofuels--alternatives to corn-based ethanol
- Bio-mass fuels: research (can have alternative to using corn)
- Alternative fuel sources (exp. Tire dried fuel, woodchips)
- Development of biodiesel from algae produced from domestic wastewater treatment facilities
- Biodiesel production for local co-op

Idea name	Group 1 participant scores							N=11		# of votes	total
3) Incentives for green upgrades (energy) for manufacturing (tech.) and infrastructure	1	5	3			2	1	4	6	16	
8) Intense conservation education with incentives			5			3	5	3	4	16	
11) Tax credits for new and existing business (i.e. green energy)	2		1	5	1	1		4	6	14	
14) Increase available capital for green energy (Pre-seed, start up, venture)			4			5		3	3	12	
16) Pass renewable energy standard to kick-start the industry		1	4		3	3			4	11	
10) Create a local manufacturing facility for wind turbines		4	2				5		3	11	
2) Level playing field, capture carbon costs through market mechanism			2		4	4			3	10	
21) Rate decoupling/incentivize utilities to promote customer conservation					2	2	4	1	4	9	
7) Begin green energy education in high school				4				2	1	3	7
18) Government lead by example				2				5		2	7
24) Clean coal technology sequestration		3					1		2	3	6
9) Recreation facility a model of energy efficiency	4								2	2	6
19) Provide incentives to small scale alternative energy. Make for easy sale of excess to utility companies				1					4	2	5

4) Pass cap and trade system to equalize green energy cost		5		1	5
5) Compile an inventory of existing green energy facilities		5		1	5
6) Green energy clearinghouse for business, industry, investors	5			1	5
15) Existing building audits, inc manufacturing			5	1	5
1) Create local enthusiasm for alternative energy		3		1	3
20) Ohio grantmaker's forum: provide education and grant money for alternative energy	3			1	3
22) Continuation of alternative energy grant programs (school bus)			3	1	3
23) Enhance workforce development efforts, state and private			3	1	3
12) Existing companies to extend internships to students	2			1	2
13) Education about grants and loans for homeowners and businesses to encourage use of alternative energy			1	1	1
17) Existing alternative energy companies providing training/education				0	0

Idea name	Group 2 participant scores				N=9	# of votes	total
11) Utilize any/all waste products as an energy source (plastics, tires, etc.)	2			4	4	3	4 13
9) Developing marketable products for everyday life that utilize renewable resources and energy	5	5			2		3 12
6) Development of biodiesel from algae produced from domestic wastewater treatment facilities			3	3	5		3 11
2) Green energy industrial parks (manufacturing for green technologies)			4	1	5		3 10
28) Develop plans to reduce health care costs	4			4	1		3 9
12) Tax credits to change existing infrastructure to advanced energy infrastructure	3	4	1				3 8
7) Look for a site suitable for a nuclear site: build a modern nuclear facility				2	5		2 7
16) Build a new/modern clean coal plant (lots of jobs, using local resources)		3			4		2 7
3) Compile data on energy and link for individuals and companies to make decisions on alternatives	5				1		2 6
13) Continued promotion of clean coal technologies			2		3		2 5

24) Making alternative fuel vehicles for purchase a priority in Ohio
 1) Look at other countries and lobby for alternative power services for residents and businesses (i.e. stirling engines)
 5) Promoting biofuels--alternatives to corn-based ethanol
 27) Encourage local governments to take a lead on alternative energy
 14) Incentive plan for companies to use advanced/alternative energy transportation (i.e. UPS fleets)
 21) Promote fair trade (not a cap) and a low carbon incentive (not a tax)
 18) Identify by localities what resources we already have (skills, resources) and adapt to the "green way" (how they can use advanced energies)
 23) Encourage industries to come back to Ohio (we have the power industries available to feed those facilities)
 22) Promote partnerships between academia and potential alternative energy producers

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25) Assistance in establishing microenterprises for the local economy--using local resources and renewable/sustainable	3		1	3
4) Promoting anaerobic digestion technologies		2	1	2
incorporate waste utilization and energy audits/efficiency, perhaps by tax credits		2	1	2
15) Encourage manufacturing of equipment for alternative energy generation/production			1	1
17) Government 1:1 match with private businesses that give back to the community			1	1
8) Construction of strategically placed natural gas filling stations (i.e. for natural gas cars)			0	0
19) Promote legislation for cap and trade and/or carbon tax			0	0
20) Develop a method for providing an information source to businesses on alternative energy sources/technologies			0	0
26) Permitting processes for ethanol and biodiesel plants (make it less bureaucratic, smoother and easier)			0	0

Idea name	Group 3 participant scores						N=12		# of votes	total
11) Creating incentives for home owners to utilize green energy alternatives	2	2	3	5	3		4	6	19	
9) Promote knowledge of universities/colleges to the small start-up businesses and partnering for development	4		5			5	4	4	18	
10) Conservation and efficiencies: promotion, incentives and education		5	4	2			2	4	17	
13) Energy recovery from waste	4		2		3	3		4	12	
1) Requirement of bio gas generation at all municipalities' waste water treatment plants					1	4	5	1	11	
4) Facilitate opportunities for the creation of companies (funding) and monitoring for quality	3						2	5	10	
7) Development of working groups specific to the region to develop ideas and plans to utilize natural resources		5						5	10	
19) Create a more favorable business environment in Ohio				4		3	2		9	
2) Support the new proposed power plants		4			5				9	
6) More use of windmills as resources	1					2	4		7	
12) Utilize the opportunities within the schools (STEM)	5						1	1	7	
3) Take full advantage of our natural resources		2				5			7	
21) Build systems cooperatively							4	3	7	

Idea name	Group 4 participant scores							N=10		# of votes	total
13) Bio-mass fuels: research (can have alternative to using corn)	1	1	3		4	5	5		6	19	
2) Local labor to generate economy re: advanced energy			3	5	5		4		4	17	
12) Alternative fuel sources (exp. Tire dried fuel, woodchips)			5		5		5		3	15	
18) Clean coal			1	4	3		5		4	13	
5) Tax incentives for production and consumption (Ohio) of all advanced energy	5	4					4		3	13	
3) Marketing program (business education) for K-12 employment opportunities in advanced engineering					1	2	3	3	4	9	
7) Set regulations for local/state/federal government for advanced energy				2		5		2	3	9	
21) Waste water treatment digester technology, waste screenings	3	5					1		3	9	
4) Invest in passenger rail system			5		3				2	8	
10) Hydro energy		1	2	2	2				4	7	
22) Look at development of nuclear energy			4	3					2	7	
16) Deregulation and regulation electricity cost					4		2		2	6	
17) Cap and trade carbon credits		2					4		2	6	
20) True cost coal (mountain top removal vs. deep mine)			4				2		2	6	

11) Common choice agrigation
(choose how energy is provided and amount)

1) Feed costs-fertilizer

8) Saving energy through energy efficiency

6) Refineries

9) Grants for small scale hydro (rural areas)

23) Invest in bike/walking ideas and resources

15) More money to conservation (i.e. corn and bean)

19) Incentive for recycled oil (cooking oil) users/producers

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Idea name	Group 5 participant scores							N=11		# of votes	total
27) Give colleges and schools help to train/teach advanced energy										6	17
1) Inventory of assets (sun, wind, etc.)	5	4						2	4	4	15
12) Job/company opportunities for small startups/capital/tax breaks								5	4	4	13
4) Tax credits	2							4	5	3	11
10)Major recycling (specifically recycling of tires)								3	4	3	10
15) Environmental impact of new and old economic programs/business								4	5	2	9
9) Conservation/efficiency leads to renewable sources and job creation								5	2	1	8
13) Identify industries (like turbines)	3								5	2	8
26) Take into account climate change									5	2	7
2) Analysis of collaboration of universities and colleges	4								2	2	6
5) "energize people"								1	5	2	6
16) Aggressively look at products that will benefit farmers/producers									3	3	6
22) Public call (science fair) for ideas and opportunities								5	1	2	6
14) Geological resources for carbon capture (find out use for carbon)	1	4								2	5

