



Executive Director's Report

January-February 2016

- **Annual Report** – We have completed our 2015 Annual Report; this is our second report of this kind. We were able to complete this report six months sooner than last year. We used the same format and updated program activity, financial information, and testimonials.
- **New Green for Green** – We have been working with a committee to review changes to the Green for Green Program for new home construction. We have settled on the idea that the new program would be offered to a limited number of new home builders who would compete to get in the program. They would receive technical assistance; marketing assistance, and rebates designed to cover the cost of upgrading their home to the next “level” of energy efficiency.
- **Marketing** – We have started some new marketing efforts, including placing full page advertising on the back page of the Delaware Business Times; this effort is supporting our loan programs. We are trying radio advertising with WDSB, WILM, and WDOV. This effort is a general campaign. We also bought ad space in the *Kent Profile*, *Sussex Profile*, *Delaware Business First Steps*.
- **Pre-weatherization Program** – This program is now fully staffed by Catholic Charities and launched. Applications are now being processed for low-income individuals requiring necessary home repairs in advance of weatherization assistance. They are still in the process of signing agreements with sub-contractors. They have been able to get prices on some initial projects, but no projects have started to date.
- **Cadmus Evaluability Study** – The study is now complete, and we are using it to develop our evaluation plans and budgets for this year.
- **Webpage Improvements** – We have added a “Your Farm” page to our website; it provides links to programs that are available to agricultural producers. You can check it out at : <http://www.energizedelaware.org/Your-Farm/>
- **2016 Bond Issue** – Bond documents are being reviewed by our Bond Counsel and the Deputy Attorney General. We have also completed the revised ESPC Guidebook and have begun distributing it. We have also developed a Report titled *The SEU and Energy Performance Contracting: Answers to Your Questions*. This started out as a response to the Auditors Inspection report, but we then decided to take the high road and publish a positive focus on the bond program.
- **Solar Resiliency Pilot Program** – We have worked out a system configuration and a financing mechanism with the sole proposer on this project. I will be bringing the revised plan to the March Board meeting.
- **Net Zero Energy Manufactured Housing Study** – Phase II of the study is complete. We will be bringing the recommendations to the Energy Program Committee for a recommendation.
- **Community Energy Center Study** – Energy Coordinating Agency (ECA) of Philadelphia is completing their feasibility study for establishing Community Energy Centers in Delaware. They have now completed their stakeholder meetings and are working on their analysis and recommendations.
- **Farm Loan\Grant Program** –We have received a program design for an Agricultural Producer Program that combines grants, loans, and audit services. The program is designed to be compatible with existing programs offered by the USDA. We are bringing this to the Energy Program Committee in March for a recommendation.