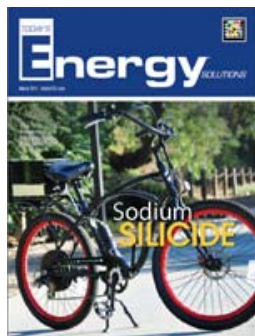




FULL STORY



Departments - Across the Nation
 Pennsylvania is Going Strong
 3/31/2011

This state has many renewable energy projects in motion, from schools to manufacturing facilities, and from biomass processing centers to food co-ops.

[Print this Story](#) [Share](#) [Save to MyTES](#)

When people think of Pennsylvania, they often think of the steel mills and old time manufacturing. However, over the course of the past few years, they have been keeping pace – if not leading the race – in promoting renewable energies. The announcement of \$1.5 million in grants to fund innovative green energy projects – Deceember 2009 – from Governor Rendell have streamlined many other programs.

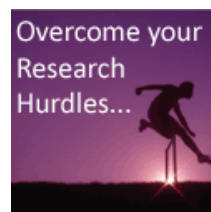
For example, Ernst Biomass (EB) LLC received an Alternative and Clean Energy Program loan, and an \$896,400 PEDA grant to construct a biomass processing and densification facility located in Crawford County. EB was formed in 2008, by Ernst Conservation Seeds Inc., for the development of solid renewable fuel from switchgrass biomass. Currently, EB is producing 500 tons of solid biomass fuel annually. The goal of facility is to manufacture a renewable fuel supply for the solid fuels market and provide biomass fuels to meet varied specifications for energy companies' testing programs. Fuel will be produced in both pellet and briquette form to be utilized in a large range of applications – from industrial furnaces to small pellet stoves. The construction of the facility will allow EB to increase production to 24,000 tons of biomass fuel annually.

The Carlisle Area School District received a \$950,000 Solar Energy Program grant to assist with the construction of a 1MW solar photovoltaic array at their main campus located in Cumberland County. The system is projected to generate approximately 15% of the annual power used by the school district.

CeeLite Technologies LLC recently received an Alternative and Clean Energy program grant totaling \$494,574 to help establish their initial manufacturing location in the United States in order to commercialize, manufacture, and distribute CeeLite Light Emitting Capacitor (LEC) lighting technology. CeeLite LEC technology is a flat, flexible, and energy efficient light form, which is more energy efficient than LED and fluorescent tube lighting. The present and future product designs will emphasize use of biodegradable and/or recyclable materials, use of post-recycled materials and environmentally sound manufacturing processes. The company will be transferring current production from Taiwan to the 10,000ft2 facility. The proposed project is estimated to create 100 jobs within three years.

Knouse Foods Cooperative Inc. was awarded \$3.5 million in grants through the Solar Energy Program to construct a 3.25MW solar photovoltaic field on a company-owned, 19-acre site in Dickinson Township. Ten of the acres used for the project were a former landfill site used for fruit waste. The solar PV system produces 30% of the annual electric need of the Knouse Foods fresh fruit processing plant.

Department of Community & Economic Development
 Harrisburg, PA
newPA.com



www.walter-tools.com/us