



SEI Board Meeting Minutes  
August 28, 2025 | 4-5:30 PM  
CCEDC, Exton, PA 19341

The following members and guests were in attendance:

First Name	Last Name	Account Name
William	Ronayne	Brandywine Valley Heating & Air Conditioning, Inc.
Gary	Smith	Chester County Economic Development Council (CCEDC)
Stephanie	Smith	Chester County Workforce Development Board
James	Robinson	DES Global, LLC
<b>Kevin</b>	<b>Wong</b>	<b>Emergent Energy Solutions, LLC</b>
Michael	Cromer	IMC Construction
A. Stevens	Krug	Krug Architects and CHP-Funder.com
Tom	Bonner	PECO
Jeff	Byers	PECO
Atiba	Kenyatta	Philadelphia Energy Authority
Rick	Moseley	PowerGreen Capital
Sherry	Cockerham	SEI
Jim	Lauckner	SEI
Elisabeta	Dalea	Verde Solutions LLC
Tijo	Joseph	Warren Energy Engineering, LLC

- Welcome and Introductions Update us on you and your business. Any business needs? (Steve Krug 20 minutes)
- Board elections: Chair, Vice Chair and Board Members. (Steve Krug)  
We're honored to accept [A. Stevens Krug](#) to the SEI board as our Immediate Past Chair and presented him with a gavel showing his years of service. Steve Krug has been a critical asset and partner with the CCEDC and its SEI initiative, having participated in 157 events and volunteering at least 240 hours to our Smart Energy Initiative.

Krug's history with SEI runs deep – he's served on the SEI board since 2015 and was chair from 2021-2025. His additional duties include serving as Programming Chair and as a member of various Working Groups and on the Training Committee. Steve has contributed to the Power Task Force and was a driving force in increasing SEI's social media presence. We're looking forward to the ways Steve Krug will continue to highlight and develop SEI through his new position.

SEI is excited to have [Kevin \(Kai\) Wong](#), President and CEO, [Emergent Energy Solutions, LLC](#) as the new Chair of SEI! Kevin had previously served as SEI Program Committee Chair and later, Vice Chair of SEI. He is also among nine new members who were elected to the CCEDC Board of Directors.



SEI was also eager to welcome [Michael Cromer](#), Vice President - [IMC Construction, Inc.](#) to his new role of Vice-Chair to the SEI Board. Mike had previously served as the Chair to the Program Committee and frequent moderator of the Q&A sessions during our breakfast briefing events.

- Appoint new action team chairs (chair needed for Membership Action Team)

We are looking forward to having a meeting in early October. Interested parties may email [jlauckner@ccedcpa.com](mailto:jlauckner@ccedcpa.com).

- Philadelphia Energy report (Atiba Kenyatta) [akenyatta@philaenergy.org](mailto:akenyatta@philaenergy.org)  
**Solarize Philadelphia “plus” Program Overview**

Atiba discussed the Solarize Greater Philadelphia program, which offers free technical assistance and unbiased financial guidance for businesses and tax-exempt entities looking to go solar. The program provides competitive bidding through an RFP process involving over 75 installers, with a goal to have projects started and completed by the end of 2027. It was noted that schools and houses of worship are eligible for the program, and there is grant money available to help these entities. The program currently has a 3-year expiration date, extendable to 2028, and the speaker mentioned being prepared to pivot if the 30% tax credit changes.

- **Action Team reports (5 – 8 minutes each)**

- Youth (Leigh Craig)
  - GETT is November 1, again at the Expo Center in Oaks! <https://gettpa.org/>. GETT involved! Email Leigh Crag [lcraig@ccedcpa.com](mailto:lcraig@ccedcpa.com).

The "Girls Exploring Tomorrow's Technology" event on November 1st, aims to expose girls to STEM careers through various hands-on activities. We would love to have more companies from the energy industry involved. Contact Jim or Leigh.

- Programming (Tijo Joseph, Chair)
  - Funding the Future: Capital Stacks for Energy Efficient Construction | July 9. Twenty-six participants from 23 different companies were in attendance. 28 people had registered to attend. We had an increase in attendees over the last C-PACE event of 36.84% in large part due to our partners sharing on their social media platforms.
  - 2026 Energy Briefing, February.

The SEI Working Groups Meeting is organized by our Vice-Chair, this term – Mike Cromer. We are tentatively scheduled for November 10. Topics are being discussed and feedback from attendees will help drive the agenda of our February Energy Briefing.

- Membership Action Team (Jim Lauckner)
  - The Board has a focus of increasing our social media presence and asks members to share our posts. We post our partners' events, energy news and use LinkedIn and Facebook to promote our events. Please email [jlauckner@ccedcpa.com](mailto:jlauckner@ccedcpa.com).
- Training and Grants (Jim Lauckner)
  - In PY 24-25 the SEI Next Gen IP Training Grant Trained 45 employees from 8 companies with incumbent worker training funds. 4 of those businesses operate in Chester County, 3 in Delaware County, and 1 in Philadelphia County. 41 certifications were earned. 4.2% of our employer partners utilized training funds this program year. The courses were:

Aaon Tech Academy - Package Start Up
ARC Flash safety for Utilities
BPI Building Science Principles (BSP)
Certified Energy Manager (CEM) Training
Combustion Performance and CO Safety
Cummins Generator Service Class
Electrical Troubleshooting
High Voltage Qualification
Module 1: HVAC Electrical
NFPA 70E
Niagara Certification
NJ Transit Contractor Safety
OSHA 40 8 hour Refresher Training
OSHA 40 hour INITIAL Training
Panasonic Gold Star Heat Pump Installer + EPA 608
Refrigeration AC / HP
Three Day Basic Oil Heat Class
UMR/AMR Initial Certification Class

SEI was not funded via the Next Gen IP grant for the 25-26 program year.

- Clean Energy Grant update. Learn more and complete a short intake form <https://smartenergypa.org/initiatives/clean-energy-workforce-development-grant/>. We have already helped companies with:
  - Growth strategy
  - Succession planning
  - Improved onboarding processes
  - HR programming
  - EOS training



- Sustainability (no L&I grants for 2025-2026)
- SEI Accomplishments 2024-2025

The Smart Energy Initiative of Southeastern PA Collaborated with and had participants from 252 different companies, education and training institutions and other organizations.

Trained 45 employees from 8 companies with incumbent worker training funds. 41 certifications were earned. 4 of those businesses operate in Chester County, 3 in Delaware County, and 1 in Philadelphia County.

Raised cash and in-kind match with the help of 256 volunteers, 61 of whom are regular volunteers serving on SEI Boards, Action Teams and the Clean Energy Workforce Grant Committee.

Hosted 827 participants who attended networking, community events, board and action team meetings and were educated and informed through SEI.

Reached out to 545 students for energy career pathway activities in collaboration with other Industry Partnerships.

- Good of the group

Attendees discussed various energy projects and technologies, including cogeneration facilities, small-scale turbines, and solar initiatives. The trend of combining small cogeneration facilities with steam orders, noting the need for software to integrate different systems was highlighted. A experience was shared about microturbines and discussed a new non-emitting turbine technology project in the 10-50 megawatt range, which produces both power and heat while capturing CO2. The group also touched on the potential for data center projects and grid improvements, with at least one participant mentioning his involvement in a state task force focused on energy delivery for data centers.

The group also discussed upcoming solar incentives and the need to balance data center development with maintaining reliable energy supply for the broader market. They reviewed progress on the PUC's weekday program, which is approaching the end of its current phase, and mentioned ongoing work with DVRPC on energy efficiency mapping and analysis.

An increasing trend of smart building technology and digital twins are recognized. PECO shares that their Economic Development group, has a focus on helping underserved developers in the Philadelphia area. It is a busy season for utility company evaluations and the increased number of solar project applications. At least one business notes an increase in projects from Canada due to uncertainty in the United States, affecting energy costs and staffing.



- Rise PA For Manufacturers but can be a benefit to energy companies.  
<https://www.pa.gov/agencies/dep/programs-and-services/energy-programs-office/rise-pa.html>. (Jim Lauckner)
- Articles being shared. (Steve Krug)
  - PECO Ways to Save. Search Trade Allies by County <https://solutions.peco-energy.com/business-home>.
  - Rebates - PECO <https://solutions.peco-energy.com/solar-incentives>
  - Tax Credit - Federal 30% or more [https://www.energy.gov/sites/default/files/2024-02/508%20Federal%20Solar%20Tax%20Credits%20for%20Businesses\\_Feb24.pdf](https://www.energy.gov/sites/default/files/2024-02/508%20Federal%20Solar%20Tax%20Credits%20for%20Businesses_Feb24.pdf)
  - Grants - "Solar for all" is residential low-income <https://www.pa.gov/agencies/dep/programs-and-services/energy-programs-office/financial-options/energy-accelerator-program/solar-for-all.html> "Solar for Schools" is for Schools. For other Solar programs questions, reach out to Greg Smith at [smitgreg@pa.gov](mailto:smitgreg@pa.gov) or 717.772.5842.
- C-PACE Pennsylvania <https://pennsylvaniacpace.org/>
- CPACE news by county <https://www.pacpacecounties.org/>
- The Sustainable Energy Fund <https://thesef.org/our-programs/>

Other News and events:

**HEAT PUMP SUMMIT & TRAINING Sept. 30 Pittsburgh ; Oct. 1 Harrisburg , Oct. 2 Philadelphia**  
**7:30 A.M. - 1 P.M. , Register:** <https://neep.org/contractor-heat-pump-trainings-pennsylvania>

The Energy Efficiency Alliance is excited to announce that we are partnering with the Northeast Energy Efficiency Partnerships (NEEP) -- along with our venue partners at Pittsburgh Gateways Corporation, Penn College's Clean Energy Center, and Energy Coordinating Agency -- to bring a series of **Heat Pump Training Summits** across the state of Pennsylvania. Events are in-person, half-day and free to attendees. They will be held September 30 in Pittsburgh, October 1 in Harrisburg and October 2 in Philadelphia.

This is a great re-set for seasoned professionals less familiar with today's higher-performing heat pumps and for newer professionals less familiar or comfortable with heat pumps as a customer solution.

This is your chance to:

- Learn about the benefits of cold climate heat pumps
- Get strategies to address customer concerns
- Connect with peers and industry experts
- Stay ahead in the growing clean energy and energy efficiency market

Specifically, attendees will receive training on:

- Air Source Heat Pump (ASHP) Market and Potential in PA



- Incentives & Rebates (current & future)
- ASHP Terminology and Broad Benefits
- ASHP Research
- Customer Focus & Business Tools
- Sizing Considerations and Load Calculations
- Ductwork Assessments
- Heat Pump Selection
- Benefits and Considerations by Application Type
- Costs of Heating and Cooling for Different Fuel Types
- Controls
- Installation Considerations
- ABCs of Service Calls

Weatherization and HVAC

Recent News <https://ccedcpa.com/news-events/>

SEI News and Events <https://smartenergypa.org/>

[Road to LionCage - Young Entrepreneurs](#) - Tuesday, September 30

**TECH360** - Wednesday, October 15

[Road to LionCage - Veteran Founders](#) - Wednesday, October 15

[GETT](#) - Saturday, November 1

[LionCage](#) - Friday, November 14

**CCEDC Stakeholders Breakfast** - Thursday, November 20



Remember **Hire One / Refer One** when you have candidates that you did not hire, but deserve a look by your network. Now managed by Bethanie Emery [bemery@ccedcpa.com](mailto:bemery@ccedcpa.com) (Jim Lauckner)

Does your company have a profile with the PA CareerLink? Remember to connect with your local CareerLink to post your jobs and more. <https://www.pacareerlink.pa.gov/jponline/> and the Chester County branch is <https://www.pacareerlinkchesco.org/>

SkillUP™ PA offers more than 6,000 job training modules and more than 130 industry-recognized credentials. Learn how to access the tool <https://www.pacareerlink.pa.gov/jponline/SkillUpPA>.

Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/SmartEnergyPA>

LinkedIn - <https://www.linkedin.com/company/smart-energy-initiative-of-southeastern-pennsylvania>

Website - <https://smartenergypa.org/>

Youtube - <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCgUaVxld48HVUOS21MjmgXw/videos>

