

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT

# Engaging Municipal Officials



Rob Graff

Manager, Office of Energy and Climate Change Initiatives

DVRPC

# DVRPC Region

(Project Area Highlighted)



# Circuit Rider for Energy Efficiency

- US EPA Climate Showcase Communities grant



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- US EPA Climate Showcase Communities grant
- Shared energy manager for small municipalities





# Circuit Rider for Energy Efficiency

- US EPA Climate Showcase Communities grant
- Shared energy manager for small municipalities
- Save money in their operations



# If you give it away, it must not be worth much



- OUTDOOR LIGHTING
- WATER/WASTEWATER TREATMENT
- VEHICLE FLEET
- BUILDINGS

## CIRCUIT RIDER

FOR ENERGY EFFICIENCY IN LOCAL GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

APPLICATION FOR DIRECT TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FOR ENERGY EFFICIENCY

Municipality: \_\_\_\_\_

County: \_\_\_\_\_

Direct Technical Assistance Point of Contact

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Who is currently responsible for municipal energy decisions (name and title)?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Which of the following does your municipality operate?  
(check all that apply)

- ☐ Administration building (number: \_\_)
- ☐ Police station (number: \_\_)
- ☐ Fire station (number: \_\_)
- ☐ Public works garage (number: \_\_)
- ☐ Library (number: \_\_)
- ☐ Street lights (number: \_\_)
- ☐ Water/wastewater pumping facility (number: \_\_)
- ☐ Water treatment plant (number: \_\_)
- ☐ Wastewater treatment plant (number: \_\_)
- ☐ Vehicle Fleet (approx. number of vehicles: \_\_)
- ☐ Other (e.g. ice rink, pool, etc.)

\_\_\_\_\_

What are your most pressing energy concerns?

# Value Your Partners

- Respect their time



# Value Your Partners

- Respect their time
- Ask what they need

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- Respect their time
- Ask what they need
- They know more than you

# Value Your Partners

- Respect their time
- Ask what they need
- They know more than you
- Spend time on materials

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**CIRCUIT RIDER PROGRAM**

# Understand your Role





# Reward and Acknowledge



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8TH FLOOR  
PHILADELPHIA, PA 19106-1520  
Phone: 215-592-1800  
Fax: 215-592-9125  
www.dvrpc.org

October 24, 2012

Dennis Sheehan  
Assistant Township Manager  
Nether Providence Township  
214 Sykes Lane  
Wallingford, PA 19086

Dear Mr. Sheehan:

On behalf of the Board of the Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission, I congratulate you and Nether Providence Township for your selection to receive the first round of Direct Technical Assistance under DVRPC's Circuit Rider for Energy Efficiency in Municipal Operations. DVRPC looks forward to working with Nether Providence Township and the other nine Direct Technical Assistance awardees, both individually and together, to develop and implement cost-effective strategies to reduce your energy costs.

DVRPC commends you for taking a leadership role in reducing energy use in municipal operations. Energy bills make up a significant part of municipal budgets, and by demonstrating commitment towards identifying cost-effective ways to reduce these costs, you are setting an important example for the residents and businesses in your community, as well as for other municipalities in the region that face similar challenges.

If you have any questions about Direct Technical Assistance, please contact Robert Graff, Manager, Office of Energy and Climate Change Initiatives, at 215-238-2826 or [rgraft@dvrpc.org](mailto:rgraft@dvrpc.org).

Congratulations, and thank you for your leadership!

With best regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Barry Seymour".

Barry Seymour  
Executive Director



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Congratulations, and thank you for your leadership!

With best regards,



Barry Seymour  
Executive Director

# Focus on Partners

- Coffee and donuts



# Focus on Partners

- Coffee and donuts
- Meeting time





# Focus on Partners

- Coffee and donuts
- Meeting time
- Make participants comfortable and respected

Marianne Leamy  
Assistant Finance Director

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**CIRCUIT RIDER PROGRAM**

# Focus on Partners

- Coffee and donuts
- Meeting time
- Make participants comfortable and respected
- Use other meetings





# Talk Their Language

## DVRPC Circuit Rider for Energy Efficiency in Local Government Operations.

In 2011, DVRPC was awarded a grant through the United States Environmental Protection Agency's Climate Showcase Communities Program to create a replicable model of sustainable community action that generates cost-effective and persistent energy reductions while improving the environmental, economic, public health, or social conditions in a community. Through this program, DVRPC launched the *Circuit Rider for Energy Efficiency in Local Government Operations program*. DVRPC's *Circuit Rider* program works with municipalities in Bucks, Chester, Delaware, and Montgomery Counties to reduce energy costs in their municipal operations. Municipalities in southeastern Pennsylvania grapple with tightening budgets and limited staffing, and yet they are inundated by sales-pitches for energy efficiency improvements on a regular basis. Municipalities want to know where to start with energy management, and how to carry these aspirations through to the implementation of cost-effective and long-term solutions towards their energy challenges. With state and federal funding for energy efficiency projects ramping down, DVRPC seeks to work with municipalities to demonstrate how cost-effective energy management decisions can be implemented and institutionalized to achieve real savings.

# Talk Their Language

**Every municipality has opportunities for energy savings!** Many of these opportunities are easy to achieve at low or no cost. In these times of tight budgets and limited staffing, many municipalities simply don't have the time to sift through competing options (and sales pitches) for energy efficiency improvements.

The Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission (DVRPC), your regional planning agency, is pleased to announce **free one-on-one direct technical assistance to reduce energy costs**—designed explicitly for smaller municipalities in southeastern Pennsylvania. This flyer provides information on this opportunity, and explains how to apply.



# Facilitate Exchange



# Be Flexible and Helpful

- If you can go the extra mile, do it.



# Take Aways

- Select partners inclined to be engaged
- Value your partners
- Understand your role
- Reward and acknowledge
- Focus on partners
- Talk their language
- Facilitate exchange
- Be flexible and helpful



# Thank You!

Rob Graff, Manager  
Office of Energy and Climate Change Initiatives  
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