

Department of Development | Press Room

TAFT ANNOUNCES EXCELLENCE IN ENERGY WINNERS 10 AWARDS PRESENTED TO ORGANIZATIONS ACROSS OHIO

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Columbus, OH -- Governor Bob Taft today announced the recipients of the 2005 Governor's Award for Excellence in Energy Efficiency, which recognizes organizations for their efforts to improve energy efficiency, the environment and Ohio's economic competitiveness.

"I commend all of today's winners for their innovative work in promoting energy efficiency, the environment and Ohio's economic competitiveness," said Taft. "These individuals and organizations are contributing enormously to Ohio's success in a competitive, energy-dependent world economy, and their efforts to foster renewable energy and increase energy efficiency will benefit all Ohioans."

This year's winners are:

Alvin & Mary Compaan (Holland, Lucas County) for a Solar Powered Home and E-Truck. By using proper building orientation, carefully chosen building materials, energy-conscious building techniques, and energy efficient appliances and lighting, the Compaans achieved zero net usage of grid electricity averaged over the year, while effectively utilizing the electrical grid in a way that contributes to load leveling. Using primarily Ohio-made products, they installed a 4.3 kW grid-connected thin-film photovoltaic system that was incorporated into a new house to create a zero-energy home that also delivers enough electricity to power normal commuting with a battery operated electric truck.

FirstEnergy Corp., Habitat for Humanity & ENERGY STAR (Akron, Summit County) for Creating Ohio Partners in Energy Efficient Affordable Housing. FirstEnergy's \$9.3 million investment in ENERGY STAR Habitat for Humanity homes in Ohio has had a significant impact on energy savings, the local economy and low to moderate-income families. Homeowners and local volunteers, including FirstEnergy employees, build the houses under trained supervision. FirstEnergy required the Habitat for Humanity homes it sponsored be built and certified to ENERGY STAR energy efficiency standards so that the homeowners could realize substantial energy savings. The investment in Habitat for Humanity has created jobs, increased state and local revenues, increased disposable incomes and provided affordable quality housing in Ohio. FirstEnergy has provided funding for 150 ENERGY STAR Habitat for Humanity homes constructed in Ohio between 2002 and 2005.

Ford Motor Company-Lima Engine Plant (Lima, Allen County) for the Quarry Geothermal Cooling System. The Ford Motor Company-Lima Engine Plant has installed a unique chilled water system that provides process cooling for plant operations as well as air tempering for employee comfort. The design uses naturally cooled water from two abandoned limestone quarries situated on the plant's 312-acre site. Cold water from deep within the quarries is pumped through newly installed large plate and frame heat exchangers providing a direct cooling reaction to a new closed loop cooling water circuit installed for plant use. The heat exchangers isolate the quarry water from the circulating plant closed loop water providing non-contact cooling.

Honda of America Mfg., Inc. (East Liberty, Logan County) for Steam Elimination. The centrally located steam boiler system was part of the original equipment installed when ELP started operation in 1989. This system was completely shut down and replaced with more energy efficient alternative methods of generating heat and humidity. Other overall benefits realized include a 78% reduction of natural gas usage, a 78% reduction in air emissions, a reduction in hazardous chemical use and storage, a reduction in wastewater generation, a reduction in water usage, and a 76% reduction in operating costs, resulting in improved profitability.

Kent State University (Kent, Portage County) for a Combined Heat and Power Project at KSU's Power Plant. Kent State University's Combined Heat and Power (CHP) project began in May 2002 by preparing for the installation of two natural gas-fired electric generators (turbines) with heat recovery steam generator (HRSG) units. The first unit placed in January 2003 was a Solar Dual Fuel Taurus 60 generator powered by natural gas or No. 2 low sulfur fuel oil. The second unit in operation was placed in January 2005, a larger Solar Taurus 70 natural gas generator, capable of producing 7,200 kilowatts of electricity and the HRSG unit produces 33,000 pounds of steam per hour under load. The nearly 60,000 pounds of steam per hour the heat recovery units capture provides almost 55 percent of the University's steam needs. As a matter of energy reliability, if a power grid failure occurs, KSU's power system can separate itself from the utility and continue to produce a majority of the power requirements of the University.

Lake Metroparks Farmpark (Kirtland, Lake County) for the Lake Metroparks Renewable Energy Project. The Lake Metroparks Renewable Energy Project is a comprehensive educational program and display located at Lake Metroparks Farmpark in Kirtland, Ohio. It is intended to help the general public and education groups visiting Farmpark make the connection between solar energy and their lives. The renewable energy systems include a 20-kilowatt wind turbine and a 26-kilowatt solar array, which provide electrical energy for use at the Farmpark. The system is also tied into the utility grid, thereby offsetting fossil fuel consumption and helping to reduce emissions.

Lorain Joint Vocational School (Lorain, Lorain County) for an Environmentally Conscious Model Home. High school students from Lorain Joint Vocational School (LJVS) worked with building professionals and designers from five organizations to design and build a model home using green building materials and techniques completed to ENERGY STAR energy efficiency standards. The intention was to design an energy efficient single family home using recycled materials. Students used the Built Green checklist for sustainable technologies, products and practices. The checklist and ENERGY STAR standards produce dwellings that reduce pollution by using less energy, providing healthier indoor air quality, reduce water consumption, and aid in preserving natural resources.

Ohio Municipal Electric Generating Agency Joint Venture-6 (Multi-County Participation) for the First Utility Scale Windfarm in Ohio. The American Municipal Power/Green Mountain Energy Wind Farm in Bowling Green is the first utility scale wind farm to be constructed in the state of Ohio. Ohio Municipal Electric Generating Agency Joint Venture-6 (OMEGA JV-6) of Columbus owns the turbines. The joint venture is a project comprising ten Ohio municipal electric systems including Bowling Green, Cuyahoga Falls, Edgerton, Elmore, Monroeville, Montpelier, Napoleon, Oberlin, Pioneer, and Wadsworth. Green Mountain Energy Company has purchased 100% of the Green Energy Attributes of the project. The total project cost was \$10,000,000 dollars.

State Teachers Retirement System of Ohio (Columbus, Franklin County) for Intelligent and Efficient Lighting and Daylight

Harvesting for STRS Ohio Facilities from 2000-2005. Located in Columbus, the State Teachers Retirement System (STRS) of Ohio developed a plan for lighting efficiency that incorporated physical design and technological ingenuity. The building design incorporates north and south facing clerestory windows. Winter sunlight is harvested with assistance from strategically located interior light shelves, while heat-intensive Summer sunlight is moderated by using sunscreens installed above the windows on the building's south side. Automated lighting systems allow for the intelligent control of lights to coordinate occupancy and lighting cycle requirements. After implementing all phases of the energy efficiency program, STRS Ohio is saving \$113, 376 and 1,913,719-kilowatt hours annually.

University of Cincinnati (Cincinnati, Hamilton County) for Consolidated Utilities. The most recent upgrade was an \$84,000,000 project to install a cogeneration plant for combined heat and power. Two dual fuel capacity (natural gas and/or fuel oil) Solar combustion turbines rated at 13.1 megawatt each were matched with their own ERI waste heat recovery steam generators and Coen duct burners capable of producing 240,000 pounds per hour of steam. Besides new installation of 10,000 tons capacity of York chillers and relocation of an added 10,200 tons capacity of existing chillers, UC engineered a system junction with the East Campus bringing an additional 13,400 tons of chilling equipment under system control. The plant had been upgraded several years earlier to include two 1,850 ton gas fired chillers and a 2.8 million gallon thermal energy storage system. Integrating the projects with existing assets helped to optimize energy efficiency and provide for an overall reduction in emissions.

The Office of Energy Efficiency (OEG) develops and administers programs that promote the natural linkage between energy, economics and the environment. OEG is committed to promoting economic growth by funding projects that protect the environment and conserve diminishing energy resources. OEG established the Governor's Award for Excellence in Energy Efficiency in response to the Ohio Energy Strategy, which called for a competitive awards program to recognize companies. This is the awards program's 12th year.

Ohio continues to play an integral role incorporating energy efficiency into economic and community development, added Lt. Governor Bruce Johnson, who also serves as Director of the Ohio Department of Development. The Department of Development continues to pursue new opportunities that help conserve energy, use alternative energy sources and implement technologies that require less energy.

For more information on energy efficiency, individuals and businesses can contact the Ohio Department of Development's Office of Energy Efficiency at <http://www.odod.state.oh.us/cdd/oe/>

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