

NCTCOG Energy Management & Renewable Energy Newsletter

June 2019



News and Updates:

- NCTCOG Energy Management Workshop Follow-Up
- Texas LoanSTAR Revolving Loan Open Enrollment Period Closing August 30, 2019
- Updates on Energy Related Legislative Bills Affecting Texas
- 2019 TEMA Battle of the Buildings - Are You Up for the Challenge?
- SPEER Updates & Expands Index of Texas Cities and Codes

- Issue Brief: Reducing Burden for Low-Income Residents in Multifamily Housing with Solar Energy
- Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Helps American Small Business with \$21.6 Million for Phase I Innovation Projects

Events:

- TXOGA Energy Summit - June 12
- Webinar: Topics in Financing Energy Efficiency - June 20
- Webinar: Using Effective Water Management To Build Resilience - June 25
- City Efficiency Leadership Council Summer 2019 Roundtable - June 26
- Greenerbuilder Austin 2019 - June 27
- Save the Date: NCTCOG Workshop - Lowering Local Government Energy Consumption Through Energy Planning - June 28
- Energy Exchange 2019 - Be Efficient And Resilient - August 20-22

NCTCOG Energy Management and Renewable Energy Resources

- Go Solar Texas - www.gosolartexas.org
- Conserve North Texas - www.conservenorthtexas.org
- NCTCOG Energy Management and Renewable Energy - <https://www.nctcog.org/envir/natural-resources/energy-efficiency>
- Dallas-Fort Worth Clean Cities Coalition - www.dfwcleancities.org

News & Updates

NCTCOG Energy Management Workshop Follow-Up

The NCTCOG would like to thank all who joined us on the *Energy Management for Local Governments: Legislative Requirements, Benchmarking, and Tools to Measure Energy and Water Use* on May 23, 2019.

The workshop provided information for local governments on the following topics:

- Senate Bill 898 reporting requirements for cities, counties, state agencies, and institutes of higher education
- Benchmarking and the value of understanding your facilities' energy and water use
- Energy Star Building Portfolio Manager - a free online tool to use in your energy management program
- Free energy audits and other resources offered by the Texas State Energy Conservation Office

Those who missed the event can review presentations and handouts provided below.

Presentations

- [The Importance of Energy Management](#)
- [Energy Accounting and Benchmarking](#)
- [Energy Star Portfolio Manager Training](#)
- [SECO and NCTCOG Resources for Energy Management](#)

Handouts

- [SECO Technical Assistance Letter](#)
- [SECO Technical Assistance Service Request Form \(Form# 50-855\)](#)
- [SECO SB898 \(82R\) Reporting Form](#)
- [Preliminary Energy Assessments \(PEAs\)](#)
- [Energy Efficiency Reporting Requirements in Texas Matrix](#)
- [Cooperative Electricity Purchasing Programs Available to Local Governments in Texas](#)
- [ENERGY STAR: Local Governments Overview of Energy Use and Efficiency Opportunities](#)
- [Why Energy Use Matters](#)
- [Conserve North Texas](#)
- [TEMA Battle of the Buildings](#)
- [EVNT & Funding Opportunities for Fleets](#)
- [Vehicle Funding Opportunities Summary](#)

Texas LoanSTAR Revolving Loan Open Enrollment Period Closing August 30, 2019

The Texas LoanSTAR (Saving Taxes and Resources) Revolving Loan finances energy-related, cost-reduced retrofits of facilities supported by the state, including public school districts and public colleges and universities, as well as units of local government such as counties, cities, towns, public hospital taxing districts or political subdivisions ([10 Tex. Gov. Code §2305.032](#)). The Texas LoanSTAR (Saving Taxes and Resources) revolving loan program open enrollment period is open through August 30, 2019. For more information and to access the LoanSTAR Application, visit <https://comptroller.texas.gov/programs/seco/funding/loanstar/>.

Updates on Energy Related Legislative Bills Affecting Texas



A few legislative actions that affect renewable energy development, energy storage, and distributed energy resources were passed by the 86th Texas legislature.

[HB 852](#)

This bill has passed both houses, was signed by the Governor, and is effective immediately.

In determining the amount of a building permit or inspection fee required in connection with the construction or improvement of a residential dwelling, HB 852 now prohibits a municipality from considering the value of the dwelling, or the cost of constructing or improving the dwelling.

[SB 1012](#)

This bill has passed both houses, was signed by the Governor, and will become effective on September 1, 2019.

This bill does not require a municipally owned utility or electric cooperative that owns or operates electric energy storage equipment or facilities to register as a power generation company. This will greatly reduce regulatory red tape and promote the further growth of electric energy storage, and hopefully distributed energy resources.

[SB 241](#)

This bill has passed both houses, and was sent to the Governor to be signed. This bill updates key dates associated with the local government energy reporting requirement in [Texas Health & Safety Code Section 388.005](#) (commonly referred to as "SB 898 reporting"), which requires an annual report to the State Energy Conservation Office on efforts to reduce electricity consumption by 5% each year. The new legislation resets the start date of the reporting as September 1, 2019 (previously it was 2011) and extends the reporting requirement until 2026 (previously it would have expired in 2021).

2019 TEMA Battle of the Buildings - Are You Up for the Challenge?

The TEMA ([Texas Energy Managers Association](#)) Battle of the Buildings is an awards recognition program for energy use reduction open to all TEMA public entity

members. The program is a way to encourage energy-efficiency practices in buildings across the state and to instill a spirit of friendly competition among the area's buildings owners and operators. There is **no cost** to enter the competition.

Registration in June 2019

Competition starts July 1 and ends December 31, 2019

Data will be gathered through LOA's or entered manually

Winners will be announced at TEMA conference in April, 2020

Why Join?

- Improve your bottom line
- Get recognized
- Education & Networking
- Show pride & Sound leadership of TX Public Entities
- Have Fun!

Contact TEMA today to learn more at awilliams@texasema.org

SPEER Updates & Expands Index of Texas Cities and Codes

SPEER published a list of all the cities in Texas for which we can verify code adoption. The first version of this tool only tracked cities with a population of 10,000 or more. Over the last months, SPPER have expanded the list to include all cities in Texas that reference an adopted building code on their website and that report issuing at least 20 building permits in 2017. The tracking tool now included two lists: One for cities that have adopted current or equivalent energy codes, and the other for cities that are still operating under older, out-of-date codes.

In 2018 there were over 118,000 permits issued for single family homes in Texas, the largest number for any state, or about fourteen percent of all homes built nationally.

Take a peek at SPEER's [City Code Adoption Tables](#).

Issue Brief: Reducing Burden for Low-Income Residents in Multifamily Housing with Solar Energy

This new issue brief discusses some key considerations and related opportunities for deploying solar energy for low-income multifamily housing (buildings with five or more units). It addresses how differences in multifamily housing type and financing structure can influence how such projects impact energy burden. The resource also profiles two multifamily housing examples in Denver and California that demonstrate how state and local entities have deployed solar energy photovoltaics

on behalf of low-income residents.

[Read the issue brief here](#)

Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Helps American Small Business with \$21.6 Million for Phase I Innovation Projects

American small businesses got nearly a \$22 million boost from the Energy Department's Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (EERE) Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) program. Small businesses are receiving Phase 1 Release II grants that demonstrate technical feasibility for innovations during the first phase of their research, including one funded by the Water Power Technologies Office. Most Phase 1 awards are for \$200,000 for less than one year.

[Read full article here](#)

Upcoming Events

TXOGA Energy Summit

June 12, 2019

Join the Texas Oil & Gas Association (TXOGA) for a lunch and lively discussion on Wednesday, June 12, at the North Texas Summit in Arlington! You will hear from top-notch speakers about how the Texas oil and natural gas industry is powering your community and leading the nation. Join statewide leaders, local representatives and industry advocates as we discuss just how important the industry is to the success of our community, our state and our nation.

Location: Sheraton Arlington Hotel, 1500 Convention Center Drive, Arlington, TX 76011

Cost: \$25 to attend. Includes lunch and gift.

Register here: <https://txoga.site-ym.com/event/ntxsummit>

Webinar: Topics in Financing Energy Efficiency

June 20, 2019 at 9 AM (Central Time US and Canada)

City Efficiency Leadership Council (CELC) webinars are intended to extend the conversation about public sector energy management best practices through education, training, and discussion. Webinars are open to anyone interested in public energy management in Texas, Oklahoma, and beyond. This webinar will discuss common mechanisms for cities to finance energy efficiency upgrades.

Speakers: Lisa Tames, Senior Vice President - Energy Services, Bank of America Merrill Lynch

Have questions or idea for future webinars? Contact Cassidy Ellis, Local Government Program Manager, SPEER, cities@eepartnership.org.

[Register here](#)

Webinar: Using Effective Water Management To Build Resilience

June 25, 2019 at 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM (EST)

An ideal water program will provide the capability to withstand, adapt, and recover from a disaster as well as utilize a diversity of solutions to drive down water consumption and ensure long-term water availability. Thus, diversity of solutions and decreasing costs and waste contribute to resilience and are ultimate goals of an effective water program. This webinar will discuss how alternative solutions and resilience can work together to create an effective water program at the site level.

[Register here](#)

City Efficiency Leadership Council Summer 2019 Roundtable

June 26, 2019

SPEER, in collaboration with the State Energy Conservation Office (SECO) and Houston Advanced Research Center (HARC), invites you to become part of the City Efficiency Leadership Council (CELC). The Council supports public sector energy efficiency initiatives through peer-to-peer resource sharing and ideas generation. Whether you are just getting started with efficiency or have recently completed a project, CELC's bi-annual regional roundtables are an opportunity to grow your professional network, gain technical expertise, and find inspiration for your next energy efficiency project!

This event is for local governments only, consultants and vendors are asked not to attend.

Speaker: TBA

Discussion: Discussion topics may include LED street lighting, project financing options, community outreach, low/no cost energy audits, utility hardening, energy benchmarking data, and more.

Location: Environmental Education Center, 4116 W. Plano Parkway, Plano, TX 75093

Register here:

<https://eepartnership.org/events/events/#!event/register/2019/6/26/city-efficiency-leadership-council-winter-2018-roundtable-north-texas>

Greenerbuilder Austin 2019

June 27, 2019

Inspiring speakers, substantive education, Women in Green, USGBC TX Leadership Awards, and networking galore!

This annual event unites individuals around the world, including architects, engineers and contractors, who are working hard in their local communities to raise the quality of life for all every day. Greenerbuilder shares the stories of leadership from businesses, the public sector, and building industry professionals who are making a measurable impact every day in the South Central region.

Location: Austin Central Library, 710 W. Cesar Chavez St. Austin, TX 78701

[Register here](#)

Save the Date: NCTCOG Workshop - Lowering Local Government Energy Consumption Through Energy Planning

June 28, 2019

This workshop is appropriate for energy managers, facility managers, personnel that manage electric contracts, and/or collect or report energy and water usage data.

Description and Agenda forthcoming
Space is limited to 45 people

Cost: Free

Location: NCTCOG Offices, Center Point II, William J. Pitstick Executive Board Room, 616 Six Flags Drive, Arlington, TX 76011

Register here: <https://www.nctcog.org/envir/events>

Energy Exchange 2019 - Be Efficient And Resilient

August 20-22, 2019

Be Efficient And Resilient – This motto resonates across DOE, the federal government, and the private sector, as all parties strive to support Administration’s goals and ensure Federal agency missions through optimized federal operations and replicable cost effective and resilient projects.

This 3-day training, trade show, and peer networking event takes place August 20-22, 2019 in the Colorado Convention Center. It features nearly 120 unique training session, 13 technical tracks, over a dozen high profile plenary speakers and endless opportunities to develop professional skills and interact with the larger federal energy/water management community.

Event Registration here: <https://www.energy-exchange.com/registration/>

Hotel and City Information: <https://www.energy-exchange.com/hotel-travel-info/>

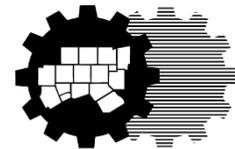
For questions or additional information on any of these items, please contact:

Tamara Cook

Senior Program Manager of Environment and Development

tcook@nctcog.org

817-695-9221



**North Central Texas
Council of Governments**

View additional events and
training opportunities at

www.nctcog.org/envir/events

ts



[Click here to see a web copy of this email](#)