

**Puget Sound New Energy Solutions:
Building Innovative Partnerships for Leadership in the New Energy Economy**

Our nation, state and region are confronted with critical energy and environmental challenges including dependence on foreign oil, climate change and volatile energy prices. We are simultaneously facing economic challenges and job losses that demonstrate the urgent need to revitalize and renew our employment base. Building on a long history of cutting-edge work in clean energy, environmental protection and technological innovation, this PSNES consortium further brands the Puget Sound region and member entities as national leaders worthy of federal and state funding in these areas.

- Puget Sound New Energy Solutions (PSNES) is a four-county (King, Pierce, Snohomish, Kitsap) collaborative partnership of municipalities, utilities, housing and transit authorities and other stakeholders that addresses energy, economic and environmental challenges by working to build a new energy economy in the Puget Sound region.
- PSNES builds on the region's long-term leadership in energy to position the region at the leading edge of an emerging new energy economy.
- PSNES is moving to realize the opportunities for new energy leadership opened by passage of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009.
- By building a national model for collaboration, Puget Sound New Energy Solutions elevates the region's profile and builds credibility and competitiveness for all projects under the PSNES banner.
- PSNES will foster an enduring regional collaboration to promote continued growth of the region's new energy economy.
- PSNES will strive to make the new economy accessible to everyone, with goals of making these opportunities to a full spectrum of income levels and communities of color.
- The region can pioneer new energy systems that link efficient buildings, clean mobility and smart grids providing clean power, while generating jobs and businesses that provide these technologies.

Several collaborative projects illustrating the PSNES principles are already under development.

Clean Mobility / Housing Hubs - Issaquah Highlands Hub is a two city block new energy hub along the Interstate 90 *Green Highway* corridor providing super-efficient affordable housing and family services, zero energy market-rate homes, grid connected renewable energy generation tied into a regional transit center and a network of electric vehicle charging stations and a regional education, marketing and training program. Proposal elements include: 9.8 acre urban village site; 146 units of affordable workforce housing; 10 zero energy, carbon neutral homes; 1,000 stall electrified regional transit center; 84 electric vehicle charging stations, regional smart grid plug-in electric vehicle demonstration site; onsite grid-connected power generation for vehicle charging & housing; community center and child care facilities; extensive regional zero energy homes, smart mobility-electric vehicle marketing & education program; building trades and design professional clean energy & green building training program; and exemplary sustainable building standards.

Partners on this include the City of Issaquah, zHome (one of the first zero-energy residential developers in the nation), Puget Sound Energy, YWCA, Master Builders of King County and Washington State University Extension Energy Program. King County, Puget Sound Energy and the City of Issaquah have also partnered with Ford Motor Company for a USDOE transportation electrification proposal, which could bring electric vehicles and charging stations to the nearby Issaquah Highlands Park and Ride owned by King County. Electric vehicle charging infrastructure is being further considered for funding under the

Energy Efficiency Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) program. Project is shovel ready and poised to begin construction, immediately creating jobs, job training and providing a regional and national-level prototype for integrated deployment of 21st century clean energy and smart mobility hubs.

PSNES members are exploring similar efforts to mesh energy efficiency, transportation electrification / clean mobility, renewable generation and compact development at existing transit-oriented development sites in the cities of Burien, Federal Way, Kirkland, Seattle and Shoreline and in Snohomish County. Cities of Bellevue and Redmond have also expressed initial interest in such a model.

Transportation Electrification - In addition to the Ford proposal, two grants were submitted to the USDOE Transportation Electrification program with PSNES members included in the national applications. If fully funded, these Transportation Electrification proposals would bring:

- Several hundred additional plug-in vehicle charging stations across King County – many at Metro Transit facilities. The charging stations would be installed at transit facilities and sites provided by the public and private partners, including the Eastside cities;
- Two innovative “battery exchange” stations in King County;
- Up to 25 new Ford Azure plug-in hybrid electric mini buses to serve Metro paratransit customers who require specialized public transportation services; and
- The acquisition of up to 74 Nissan all-electric vehicles for use in the County's Vanpool/Vanshare program and motor pool, as well as additional Nissan all-electric vehicles for use in other municipal fleets (not sure here if other cities besides Seattle applied).

Pierce, Snohomish and Kitsap counties, cities and utilities are also engaged in conversations about transportation electrification investments. Many members of PSNES are also members of the Puget Sound Clean Cities Coalition, which has submitted a collective grant application for competitive USDOE Clean Cities funding to help pay for alternative fuel vehicles and infrastructure.

Home Energy Efficiency - In addition to the abovementioned Issaquah Highlands model project, the PSNES members are also considering collaboration on EECBG funding for programs including: energy performance scoring, social marketing of energy efficiency improvements, compact fluorescent light bulb recycling and information-sharing about the effectiveness of energy efficient municipal street lighting. Generally, in the area of energy efficiency, PSNES members are expecting that lesson-sharing and common measurement of performance outcomes will be a critical added value of the consortium.

Smart Power Grid Technologies - Utility and local government members of PSNES are exploring a number of ways to participate in smart grid initiatives, ranging from direct individual participation to multiple party collaborations with regional entities. Regional utilities are planning smart grid applications for the Federal Matching Fund for Smart Grid Investment Costs, funded through ARRA. Municipalities have strong assets to bring to such proposals, including opportunities to use government buildings and electrified vehicle fleets as test beds and to engage citizens as consumer participants.

Energy Efficiency Conservation Block Grant Program - Municipalities receiving more than \$250,000 in EECBG formula funds must submit an Energy Efficiency Conservation Strategy to the USDOE. PSNES members who are required to submit this strategy have agreed to share model language for incorporation into their submissions. Counties, cities and utilities are also collaborating closely on a strategy for the use of EECBG formula and competitive funds to leverage dollars, increase efficiency in public buildings, and provide employment in green jobs.