

Energizing Student Potential & PECO Energizing Education Program

2024 Energy Innovation Challenge

The Intro

Exelon and its operating companies, (ComEd, PECO, Pepco, BGE, Delmarva Power, and Atlantic City Electric), and the Illinois ESP program partners, (bp, Nicor Gas, Peoples Gas, and North Shore Gas), believe sustainability is more than just a strategy and addressing climate impacts is a key priority. About 40% of U.S. carbon dioxide emissions is attributable to electricity generation and the appliances and systems used within residential and commercial buildings. ESP and PEEP classrooms will have an opportunity to participate in a program-wide challenge to consider the way *they* look at their own climate and energy impacts and sustainability efforts as a community.

The Task

- Build upon the energy and climate lessons you may have already explored OR introduce climate science to your students. Explore greenhouse gases like CO₂, how these gases are emitted, the impacts of excess emissions, and how human behaviors can contribute to these emissions.
- Students will work together as a team to create a digital project and short pitch to discuss how your community could begin to combat climate change.
- Students can present their “pitches” and projects to judges and peers in a virtual “Think Tank.”

The Details

- The project should be a digital presentation or video, introduced with a short, pitch-style introduction to the team members, (think: Shark Tank – style intro & presentation).
- The short pitch will help your team introduce the team, your community, and your project and in a creative way. **Pitches should be no more than 1 minute.**
- The **digital presentation or video should be no more than 3 minutes** and include the following:
 - A description of the community energy/climate impact or challenge
 - A strategy or plan to address the issue
 - An overview of why this selected behavior or impact is targeted for action
 - An overview of how the plan will involve or engage the community (stewardship)
 - A plan for how you could measure performance
- Students will be grouped by similar grade bands to present to judges/peers.
- Projects must be completed and tested for sharing by May 15th.
- Teams will receive a \$2000 grant to purchase supplies for activities and meals/snack for students during the “Think Tank” presentation session.
- Teams can request classroom support or virtual visits from Exelon/ESP partner employee volunteers.
- *The Energy Innovation Challenge Think Tank & Experiment Session will be scheduled based on availability of participating teams. Team participation in this virtual meeting is strongly encouraged.*
- Prizes will be awarded, and digital certificates will be provided for all who participate.

Sign Up to Participate!

Sign up: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2024InnovationChallenge>

Need more info? Virtual Info Session Coming Soon!

Introductory Info Session: TBD Date - In this 30-minute session, we'll cover lessons to get you started, inspiration and instruction for projects, how the students will be judged, and what the session will look like. It will be recorded for those unable to attend! Participation is optional. Programs can begin prior to the introductory info session if they have completed their application!

Lessons and Links to Get Started:

NEED Climate Science Curriculum, <https://shop.need.org/collections/climate-science>

- Activity highlights:
 - Greenhouse in a Beaker
 - Carbon Cycle Simulation
 - Carbon in My Life
 - Climate Web Game
 - Pretzel Power
 - Road Trip
 - Energy, Climate & You

Youtube Video Lessons & Connections, NEED & When the Bleep™

- Greenhouse in a Beaker Instagram Live w/Caryn at NEED
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W-Q4zpmU-m0>
- Energy Efficiency, Energy Conservation, and Carbon w/ Rob from When the Bleep™
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YAVOyb5iKZc>
- The Facts of Light & CO₂ w/ Rob from When the Bleep™
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v= NUUqX6aKek>
- Digital Conservation & Climate activity templates
 - [Facts of Light Template](#)
 - [Pretzel Power Template](#)
 - [Road Trip Template](#)
 - [Climate Web Jamboard](#)