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Indiana's Office of Energy Development (OED) Announces Winners of 2015 Fall Community Conservation Challenge Grants

INDIANAPOLIS – The Indiana Office of Energy Development (OED) today announced the six winners of the Community Conservation Challenge (CCC) grants. The grantees will share more than \$550,000 to help support their unique, Hoosier-based community energy conservation projects.

The CCC program offers financial assistance to non-residential entities for projects that reduce an organization's energy consumption or displaces the use of traditional energy sources. By diversifying energy sources and reducing energy consumption, grantees may reduce their exposure to fueling price shocks and improve their access to affordable, reliable energy.

Recipients of the 2015 Community Conservation Challenge (CCC) grants are:

City of Fort Wayne – City Utilities - \$100,000

The City of Fort Wayne will be making lighting, structural, and HVAC updates to the Three Rivers Filtration Plant's lab building. The scope of work will have a 53 percent reduction in cooling requirements, as well as a 60 percent reduction in total energy consumption.

DePauw University - \$62,523

DePauw University will utilize the funds to publically demonstrate the importance of energy conservation measures, thereby teaching residents best practices to implement new, innovative strategies in their homes and communities. DePauw will exercise four objectives: 1) updating lighting in the Neal Fieldhouse to LED lighting; 2) install a real-time energy usage device on DePauw's campus and schools at the Greencastle School Corporation; 3) develop educational materials, and; 4) promote accomplishments locally, regionally, and nationally.

Hoosier Interfaith Power and Light (HIPL) – \$100,000

HIPL will install solar arrays at All Souls Unitarian Church in Indianapolis, St. Peters United Church of Christ in Carmel, Eastgate Christian Church in Indianapolis, and Neighborhood Fellowship Church in Indianapolis. Each congregation must also commit to reducing their electricity and natural gas consumption over the life of the grant through energy efficiency and conservation measures. Members of the churches will also pledge to show they have worked to conserve energy in their homes.

Lake Court House Foundation, Inc. - \$100,000

The Lake Court House Foundation, Inc. will overhaul its heating and cooling systems in order to save energy and to stabilize the building's temperature levels. Excessive exposure to temperature changes is a large cause of damage and deterioration to collections in historic buildings, such as museums. The project is estimated to save over \$25,000 annually in energy costs.

Tri-Creek School Corporation - \$100,000

The Tri-Creek School Corporation will add 205 solar panels (5,872 square feet) which will power 86 percent of the new transportation center's annual electricity use. Teachers will also take production data from the solar panels and incorporate it into their curriculum. The project is estimated to save over \$16,000 annually in energy costs.

University of Evansville - \$90,580

The University of Evansville will install solar, photovoltaic panels on the roof of the Carver Community Organization's Neighborhood Center, as well as convert over 1,000 florescent light bulbs to LED lighting. The estimated annual savings equals more than \$14,500.

"We were very pleased with the response to this year's CCC grant program," said Tristan Vance, Director of the Indiana Office of Energy Development (OED) and Chief Energy Officer for the State. "This competitive grant program recognizes and encourages collaborative conservation efforts for energy consumption. These projects are innovative and creative, and they will provide tangible energy savings for Hoosiers."

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