



RESEARCH TRIANGLE  
CLEANTECH CLUSTER™

# 2021

## CLEANTECH INNOVATION AWARDS SPONSORSHIP

Wednesday, December 8, 4:00-6:00 PM

### INDIVIDUAL & SMALL TEAM AWARDS



CLEANTECH ENTREPRENEUR



CLEANTECH CHAMPION



CLEANTECH RESEARCH INNOVATION

### ORGANIZATION AWARDS



EQUITY IN CLEANTECH



CLEANTECH TALENT DEVELOPMENT



DIVERSITY IN CLEANTECH

### CLEANTECH IMPACT AWARDS



LOCAL  
GOVERNMENT



TRANSPORTATION



WATER



ENERGY



ECONOMIC  
DEVELOPMENT

#### GROWING BUSINESSES | MARKETING THE REGION | ATTRACTING TOP TALENT

about  
RTCC

The Research Triangle Cleantech Cluster accelerates the growth of the Research Triangle's cleantech sector by connecting industry, government, and academic partners. We work with regional stakeholders to develop and recruit talent, make strategic connections that lead to local and global business opportunities, and market the region as a global cleantech destination.

# 2021 CLEANTECH INNOVATION AWARD CATEGORIES

## Individual & Small Team Awards



### CLEANTECH CHAMPION OF THE YEAR

Recognizes an individual who exemplifies a deep commitment to advancing the cleantech industry in the region or state. Achievements may include demonstrated dedication to sustainability, business expansion or relocation, development of high-impact technology, or spearheading regional/cross-sectoral collaboration to drive innovation.



### CLEANTECH ENTREPRENEUR AWARD

Recognizes an individual who has demonstrated innovation through the development of new technology or advancing existing technology that has the potential to disrupt traditional industries, create a cleaner planet, and improve the quality of life for people here in North Carolina or around the world.



### CLEANTECH RESEARCH INNOVATION AWARD

Recognizes an individual or group pursuing a research-based solution to a pressing cleantech challenge, working toward commercialization of a research-based cleantech innovation, or spearheading a new collaboration between research and industry.

## Organization Awards



### EQUITY IN CLEANTECH AWARD

Recognizes an organization or initiative that has demonstrated a strong commitment to equity in the implementation of a cleantech project. Examples may include deployments that focus specifically on the equitable availability of cleantech solutions, initiatives that address existing inequalities through new cleantech investments, and stakeholder engagement specifically designed to promote inclusion in planning or implementation processes.



### CLEANTECH TALENT DEVELOPMENT AWARD

Recognizes an organization or initiative that has made a significant contribution to developing talent, providing professional development, or fostering employment opportunities that support the cleantech industry in the region or state. Examples may include a corporate apprenticeship or internship program, a community college or university certificate in clean technologies, or K-12 curriculum or outreach program.



### DIVERSITY IN CLEANTECH AWARD

Recognizes an organization or initiative that has made significant contributions to ensuring the cleantech workforce reflects the people it serves. Examples may include targeted efforts to help underrepresented groups explore cleantech career opportunities, corporate programs designed to recruit and support underrepresented employees, or inclusion-focused mentoring or networking initiatives.

## Cleantech Impact Awards



### CLEANTECH IMPACT: ENERGY

Recognizes an energy project that applies cleantech to create positive impacts for the environment, economy, and residents. Examples may include innovations to existing grid infrastructure to enhance resiliency, renewable energy installations, microgrid deployments, or innovative energy efficiency programs.



### CLEANTECH IMPACT: WATER

Recognizes a water, wastewater, or stormwater project that applies cleantech solutions to create positive impacts for the environment, economy, and residents. Examples may include deployment of smart metering solutions at scale, application of data to identify opportunities for water conservation, or innovative technology deployments that improve water quality and the environment.



### CLEANTECH IMPACT: TRANSPORTATION

Recognizes a transportation or mobility project that uses innovative cleantech solutions to create positive impacts for the environment, economy, and residents. Examples may include successful EV charging deployments, microtransit initiatives, or efforts to improve mass transit systems.



### CLEANTECH IMPACT: LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Recognizes a local government that has effectively leveraged resources and partnerships to complete an innovative project or initiative deploying cleantech solutions to create positive impacts for the environment, economy, and residents. Examples may include smart city technology deployments, collaborative stormwater management agreements, or cross-departmental teams addressing climate change or cleantech adoption or deployment.



### CLEANTECH IMPACT: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Recognizes a cleantech organization that has accelerated economic growth in the region or state. Examples may include a cleantech business that has relocated to the region or state, an organization that has made a significant impact through the application of clean technologies, or an organization that has enabled cleantech economic growth.

# 2020 CLEANTECH INNOVATION AWARD WINNERS

## CLEANTECH CHAMPION OF THE YEAR



A 33-year employee of the North Carolina Electric Cooperatives, currently in the role of COO, Mike Burnette's fundamental goal has been to improve the quality of life in the rural North Carolina communities that cooperatives serve, supporting them in a variety of ways, including helping cooperatives provide affordable and reliable electricity.

## CLEANTECH ENTREPRENEUR AWARD



Ryan Kennedy founded Atom Power at UNC Charlotte. The company today manufactures 95% of the components for the Atom Switch within 200 miles of Charlotte and employs 26 people. In 2020 Atom Power raised \$17.8 million in a Series B round to develop a next gen digital circuit breaker, scale its intelligent power management platform, and address power distribution challenges.

## DIVERSITY IN CLEANTECH AWARD



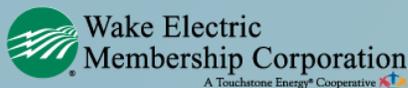
The RENEW Training Program is a partnership between Charlotte and the Urban League of the Carolinas. Participants receive HVAC industry-certified credentials required for entry-level technician positions in commercial and residential energy, including renewable energy and energy efficiency. Graduates have access to career opportunities with industry leaders.

## WATER INNOVATION AWARD



Cary's floodwater prediction and monitoring system provides real-time alerting and visualization of rising storm water levels to enable automated operational response, citizen notification, and data sharing with regional partners, as well as analysis and prediction of future events.

## CLEANTECH COMMUNITY AWARD



Wake Electric Membership Corporation (Wake EMC) recognized the mass sprawl in the Northern Wake County area. Wake EMC and their partners developed a community microgrid for the residents of the Eagle Chase subdivision which includes clean and traditional generation to increase resiliency, sustainability, and generate economic benefits to the utility and community residents.

## GRID INNOVATION AWARD



PRG designed, funded, built, owns, and operates the CPP project in Farmville, which annually uses 70,000 tons of poultry litter to generate nearly 2MW of clean renewable electricity and the equivalent of 12MW of thermal power to assist the operations of a small utility and nearby industry. The project brought \$32M in investment into rural North Carolina, and created jobs.

## CLEANTECH IMPACT AWARD



The Garner Economic Development Corporation worked to replace the 440 jobs and \$55 million of tax base that was lost when the ConAgra Foods plant closed. The Project Axis - Amazon RDU1 initiative resulted in the redevelopment of the former plant, a 98-acre brownfield site, into a 2.6 million square foot Amazon fulfillment center that will employ thousands.

## CLEANTECH TALENT INITIATIVE



The CE-STEM program communicates EPA's mission of protecting human health and the environment to students, educators, and the public through interactive programs in schools, community events, on the EPA-RTP campus and, since March 2020, through virtual programming. Cleantech is embodied in CE-STEM, particularly in available resources and a Speakers Bureau.

## TRANSPORTATION INNOVATION



Raleigh created a GIS-based tool that identifies the most suitable, priority locations for publicly available Level 2 EV charging stations in the city to serve the community. The suitability of an area is based on criteria such as EV driver behavior, location convenience, charger utilization, economic development opportunities, environmental justice, and equity.

# 2021 CLEANTECH INNOVATION AWARDS SPONSORSHIP

To ensure recognition, your commitment is requested by October 31, 2021

## PRESENTING SPONSOR (Exclusive)

\$3,000

- Opportunity to provide remarks to 120+ during event
- Logo integrated with event logo for maximum exposure before & during event
- Verbal and logo recognition as Presenting Sponsor during event
- 10 event tickets
- Logo, name, & link promoted to 3,500+ through event emails, webpage, & press releases

## AWARD SPONSOR (11 available)

\$950

- Logo and verbal recognition as Award Sponsor during event
- 10 event tickets
- Logo, name, & link promoted to 3,500+ through event emails, webpage, & press releases

## PAST SPONSORS

