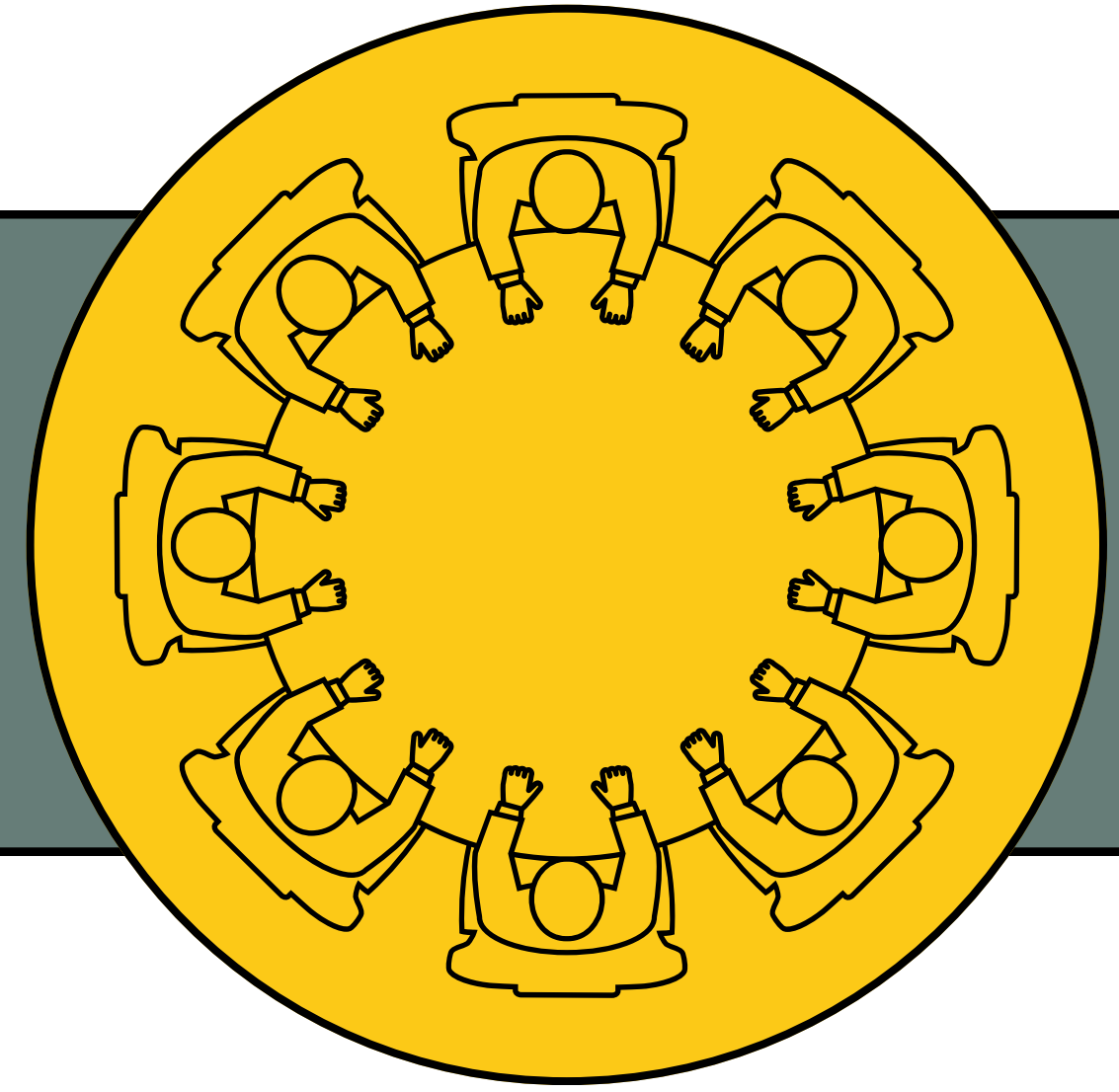


# Governor's Energy Advisory Council



The **Delaware Energy Act** (first adopted in 2004) created the **Governor's Energy Advisory Council (GEAC)** and mandated the development of the Delaware Energy Plan. The GEAC provides recommendations to the Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control (DNREC) **State Energy Office** to:

- Develop and provide updates to the Delaware Energy Plan every 5 years
- Propose strategies and actions to enhance Delaware's energy system while mitigating its impacts on climate change

## GEAC Working Groups

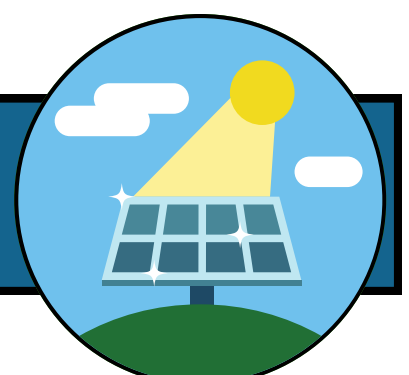
Energy Equity and Environmental Justice



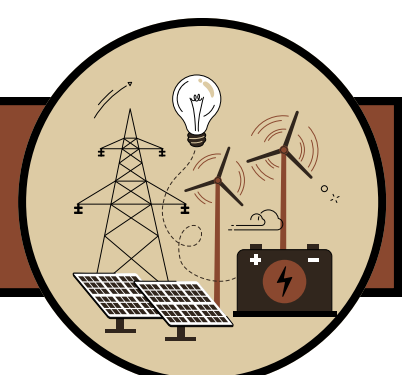
Energy Efficiency and Electrification



Renewable Energy and Clean Technologies



Grid Modernization



## Delaware Energy Plan

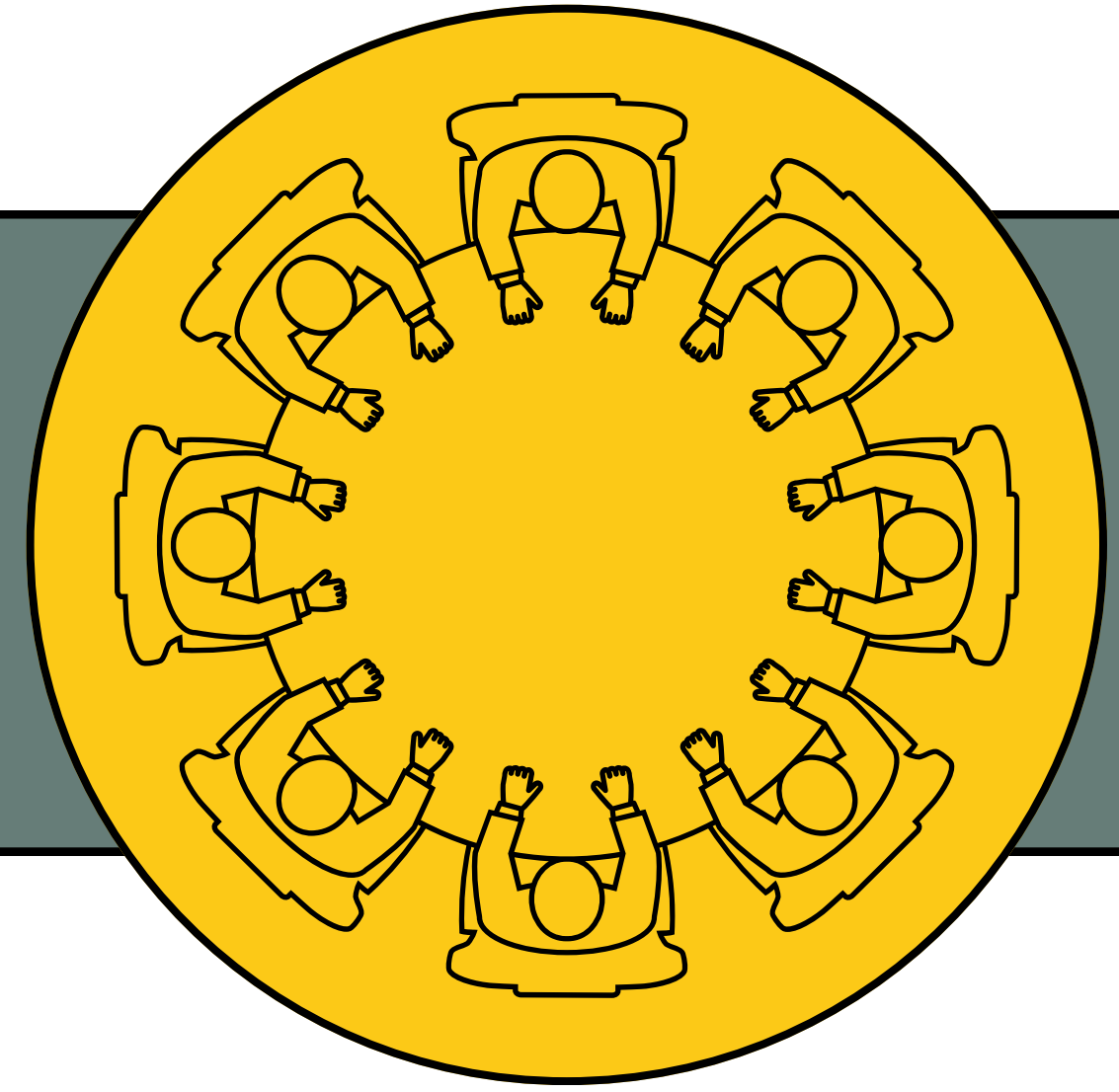
The state's energy plan provides recommendations to the Governor to:

- Encourage and promote renewable electric generation facilities and alternative energy technologies
- Maintain and improve the reliability and security of Delaware's energy systems
- Minimize energy-related costs and impacts on Delaware citizens
- Support the state's greenhouse gas emissions reduction goals



DELAWARE DEPARTMENT OF  
NATURAL RESOURCES AND  
ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL

# Governor's Energy Advisory Council



## Timeline



**25 GEAC members** representing business, environmental interest and energy sector experts, environmental equity advocates, state and local government, elected officials and the general public.

## Governor's Energy Advisory Council Members:

**Ed Kee**, Chair  
**Sen. Stephanie Hansen**  
**Rep. Debra Heffernan**  
**Shawn M. Garvin**, Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control Secretary  
**Nicole Majeski**, Department of Transportation Secretary  
**Michael Scuse**, Department of Agriculture Secretary  
**Ruth Ann Price**, Public Advocate  
**Drew Slater**, Sustainable Energy Utility Executive Director  
**Dallas Winslow**, Public Service Commission Chair  
**Dayna Cobb**, Weatherization Assistance Program Policy Advisory Council Chair  
**Cassandra Marshall**, Advocate, representing economically or environmentally overburdened and underserved communities  
**Lisa Oberdorf**, Delmarva Power, representing Public Service Commission regulated electric utilities  
**Steve Baccino**, Chesapeake Utilities, representing Public Service Commission regulated gas utilities

**Kimberly Schlichting**, Delaware Municipal Electric Corporation, representing municipal utilities  
**Rob Book**, Delaware Electric Cooperative, representing cooperative public utilities  
**William "Don" Clifton**, Delaware Farm Bureau, representing agriculture and/or agribusiness  
**Dale Davis**, Delaware Solar Energy Coalition, representing solar energy  
**Kris Ohleth**, Special Initiative on Offshore Wind Executive Director, representing wind energy  
**Bahareh van Boekhold**, ILLUME Advising, representing energy efficiency  
**Dr. Steve Hegedus**, University of Delaware, representing innovative energy technology  
**Christian Fuess**, Delaware Energy Users Group, representing industrial electricity users  
**Mark Baker**, Baker Petroleum, representing transportation and heating fuels  
**Christophe Tulou**, Center for Inland Bays, representing environmental stakeholders  
**Dr. Alan Greenglass**, Mid-Atlantic Alliance for Climate and Health, representing public health  
**Lori Murphy Lee**, PJM Interconnection, representing energy interests



DELAWARE DEPARTMENT OF  
**NATURAL RESOURCES AND  
ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL**

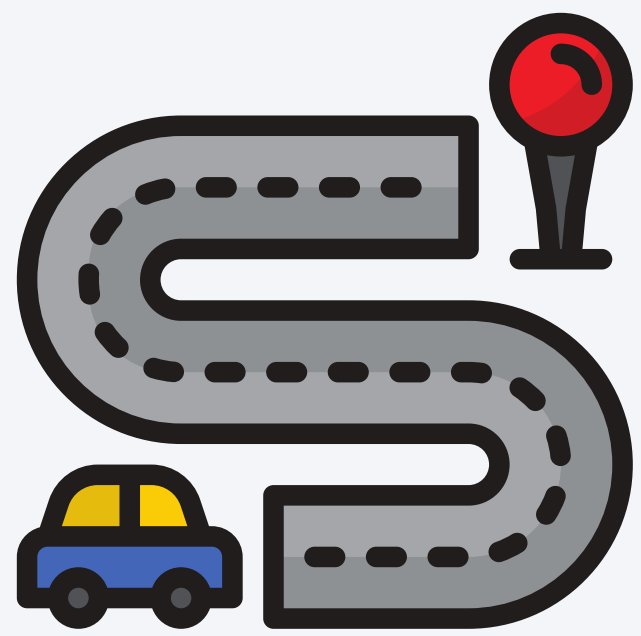
# Environmental Justice and Energy Equity



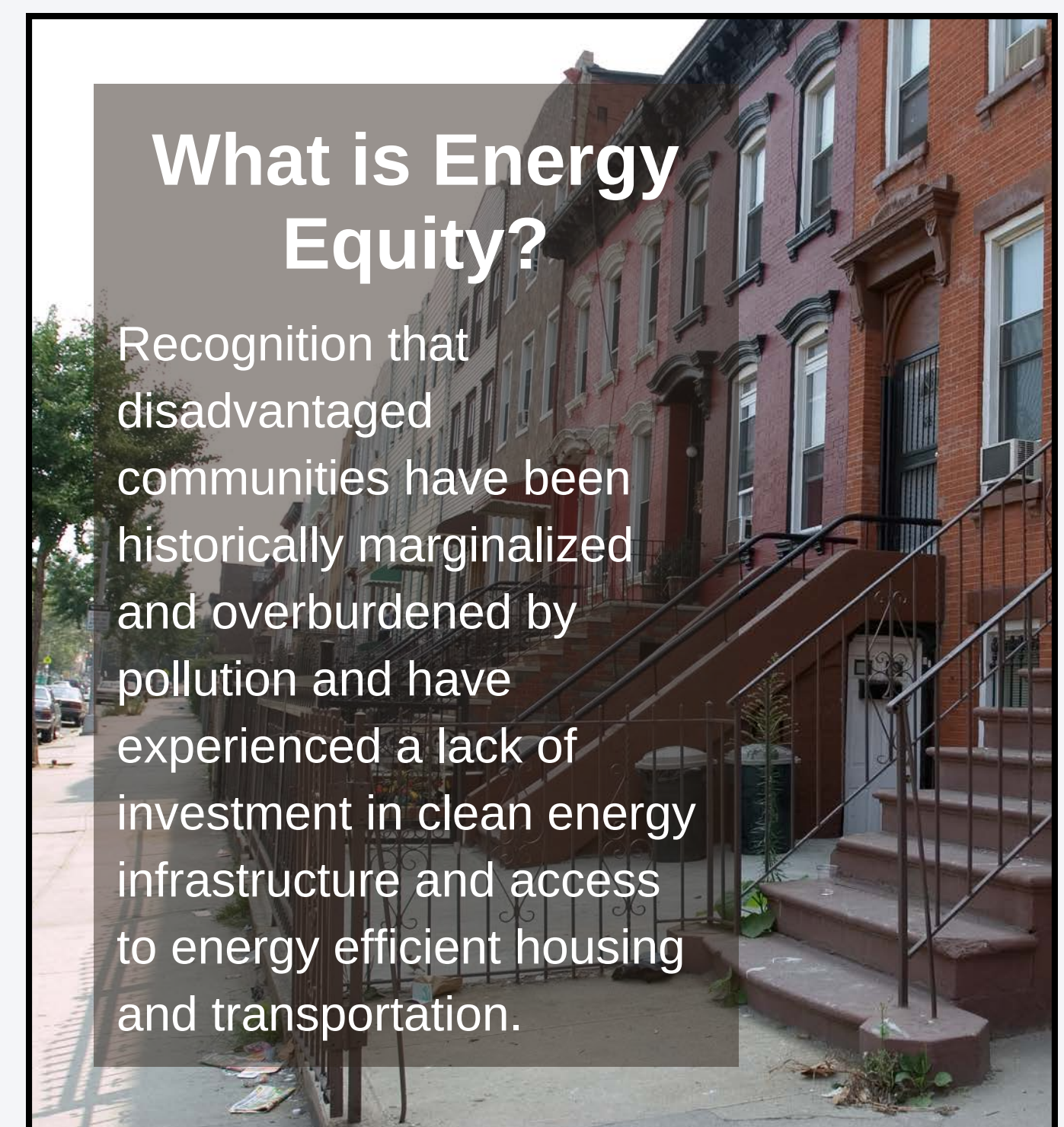
The Environmental Justice and Energy Equity Working Group focuses on the **impact of energy systems on environmental justice communities, societal benefit programs and workforce development.**



**Energy burden:** The energy burden on low income households, on average, is twice that of average income households and three times greater than higher income households. Energy burden is often defined as the percentage of household income spent on home energy bills.



**Transportation burden:** High poverty suburban households spend about a quarter of their budget on everyday travel, when a reasonable figure should be below 18%. That amounts to about \$3,000/year extra spent on transportation.



## What is Energy Equity?

Recognition that disadvantaged communities have been historically marginalized and overburdened by pollution and have experienced a lack of investment in clean energy infrastructure and access to energy efficient housing and transportation.

## Key Issues:

- Community Engagement
- Workforce Development
- Energy Efficiency
- Renewable Energy
- Public Health

## Areas of Possible Recommendations:

- Facilitating partnerships between local colleges/universities, state/local government, and nonprofits to enhance workforce development opportunities
- Addressing urban heat islands
- Developing a broad strategy to provide for continuous community engagement
- Addressing the accessibility of energy programs



DELAWARE DEPARTMENT OF  
NATURAL RESOURCES AND  
ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL

## Low- to Moderate-Income Solar Pilot Program



On July 1, 2022, DNREC launched this program to test expansion of residential solar photovoltaic systems into low- to moderate-income markets, which have been underserved by existing renewable energy assistance programs. Experience from this two-year pilot program will be used to develop a statewide solar program that will provide services to low- to moderate-income homes regardless of electric utility service territory.

# Energy Efficiency and Electrification



The Energy Efficiency and Electrification Working Group focuses on current **energy efficiency programs, electric vehicles and transportation and building electrification.**

## Transportation Electrification in Delaware

### Electric School Buses

House Bill 10 established targets for yearly purchases of electric school buses through 2030.

### Electric Vehicle Rebates

House Bill 12 codified an existing Electric Vehicle Rebate Program to provide incentives to Delaware residents for buying and leasing new and used electric vehicles.

### EV Ready Buildings

Senate Substitute 1 for Senate Bill 103 required newly-constructed homes to be made ready to charge electric vehicles.

### DC-Fast Electric Vehicle Charger Competitive Grant Program

In the fall of 2021, DNREC released a competitive request for proposals for \$1.4 million to provide incentives for businesses to install and operate DC-Fast charging stations for electric vehicles.

### Clean Cars Program

In March 2022, Gov. John Carney announced that Delaware would begin gathering public input on California's Advanced Clean Car II regulations which, if adopted, would accelerate the commercialization of battery electric, plug-in hybrid and fuel cell electric vehicles.

### National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Program (NEVI)

The NEVI Program will provide nearly \$15 million in federal dollars to Delaware over a 5-year period to deploy fast and reliable electric vehicle charging stations along highways.

## Energy Efficiency Initiatives

### Energy Efficiency Investment Fund

DNREC's Energy Efficiency Investment Fund provides assistance to small businesses and organizations in making energy efficiency improvements to their facilities through grants or loans.

### Weatherization Assistance Program

DNREC's Weatherization Assistance Program helps homeowners and renters cut their energy bills by weatherproofing and improving the energy efficiency of their homes.

### Cool Switch Low Impact Refrigerant Program

DNREC's Cool Switch Low Impact Refrigerant Program incentivizes the use of refrigerants with lower potential for global warming impacts.

### Building Energy Codes

DNREC periodically updates Delaware energy codes to promote energy efficiency.

### Workforce Development

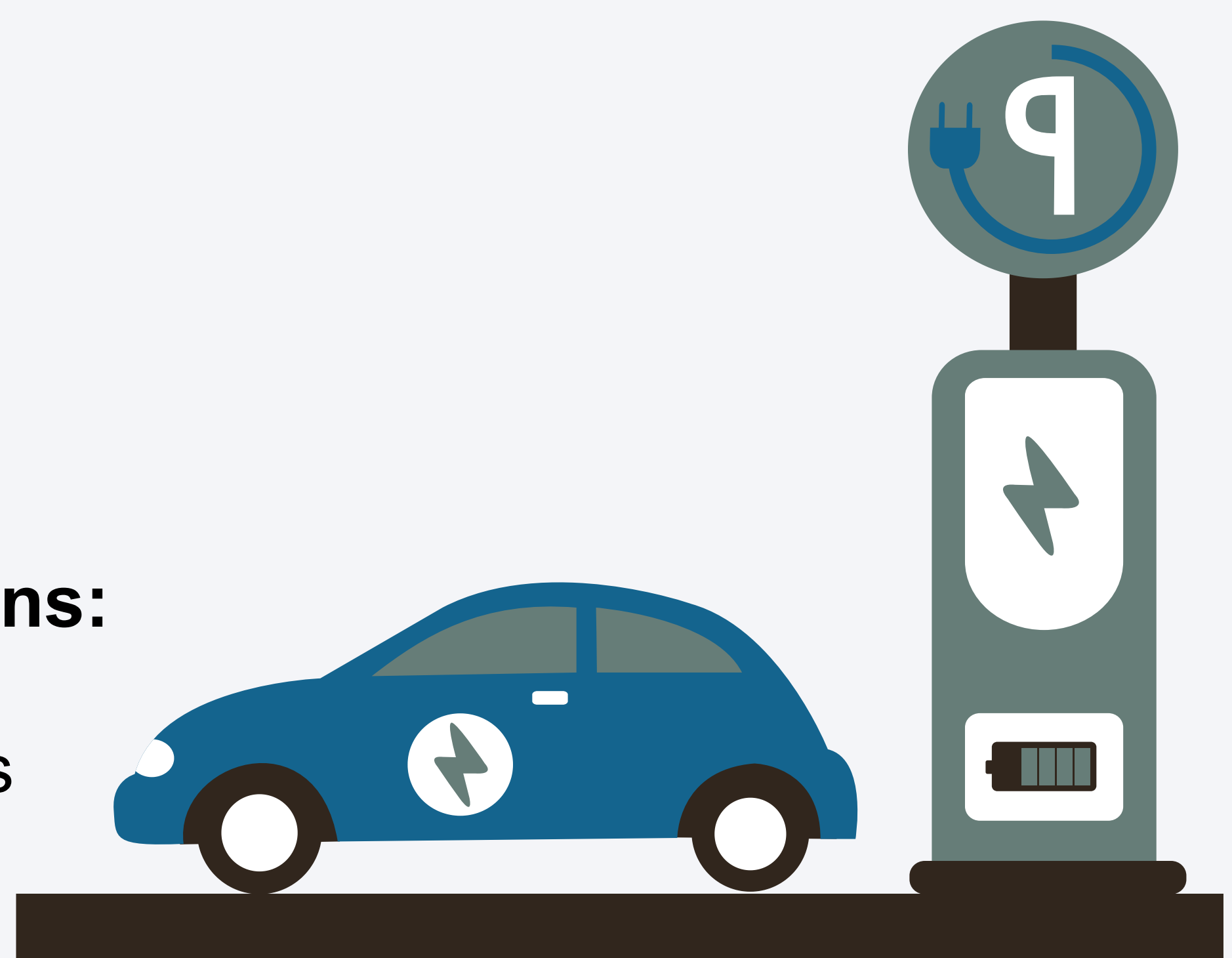
As Delaware shifts toward building to higher energy efficiency standards and investing in electrification, we will need to train more contractors, electricians and other trades.

## Key Issues:

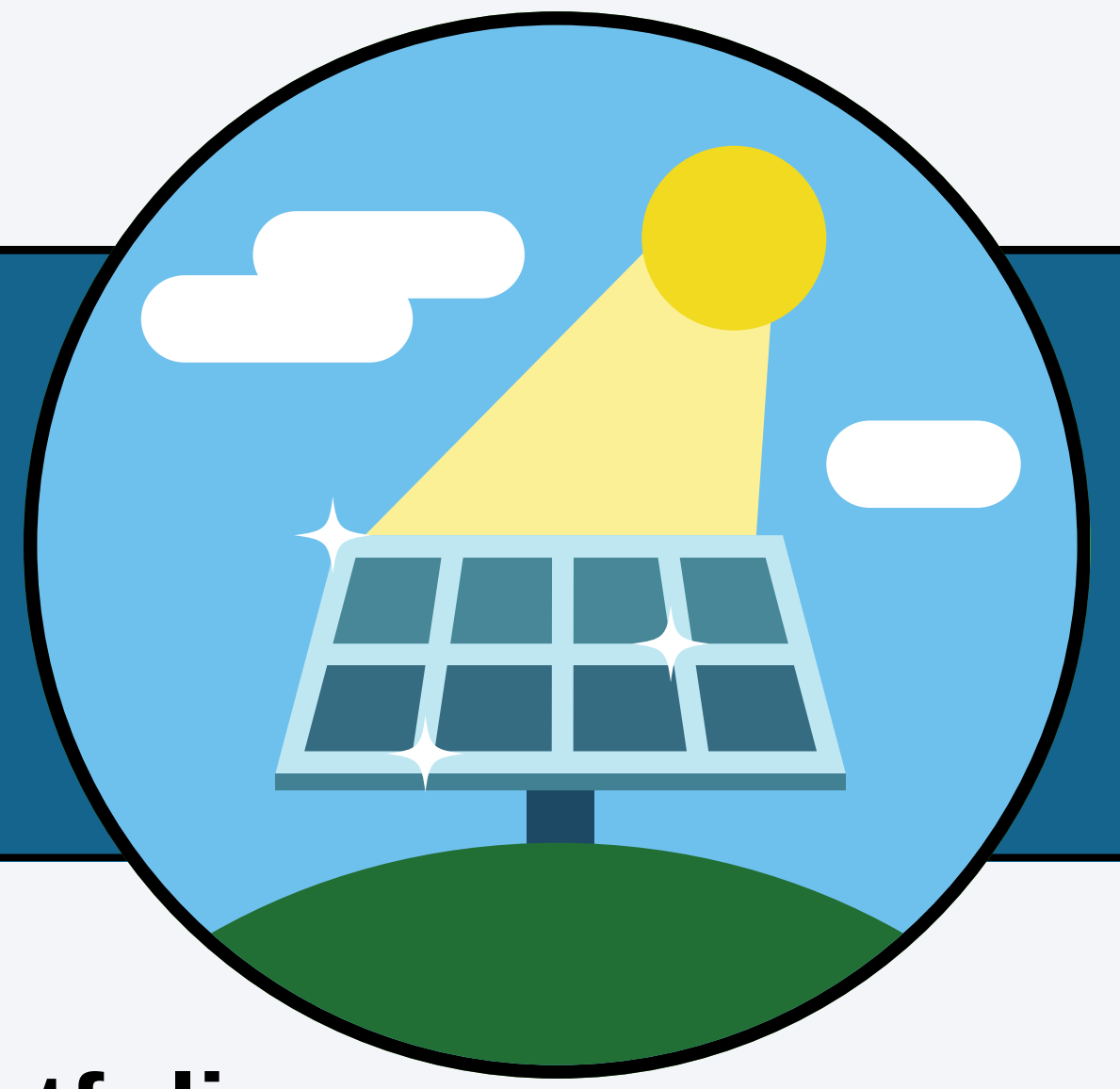
- Preparing for electric vehicles and building electrification
- Aligning programs to meet the Climate Action Plan's emissions reduction goals

## Areas of Possible Recommendations:

- Improved coordination of existing energy efficiency incentive programs
- Improving the availability of data for tracking progress over time



# Renewable Energy and Clean Technologies

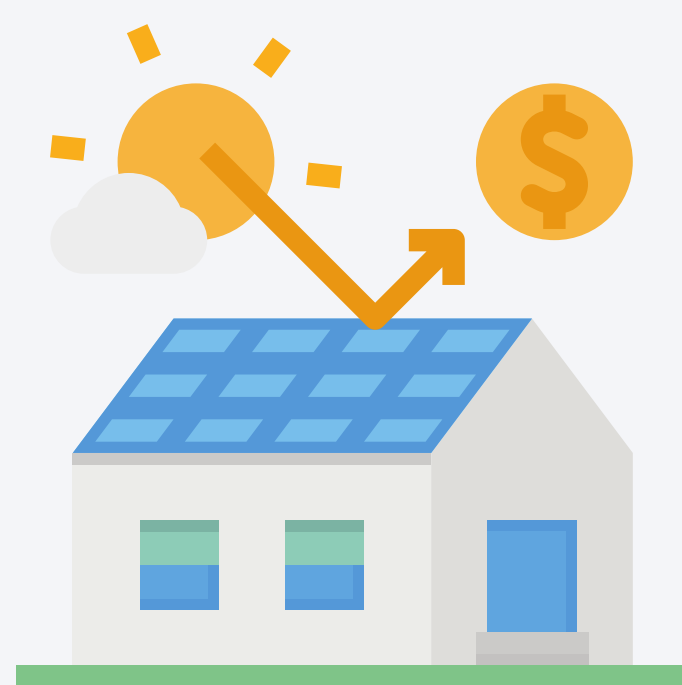


The Renewable Energy and Clean Technologies Working Group focuses on **renewable energy portfolio standards, offshore wind, solar, clean hydrogen, energy storage and emerging technologies.**



## Green Energy Program

Grant funds and incentives are available from several energy funding programs to promote the use of renewable energy.



## Low- to Moderate-Income Solar Pilot Program

DNREC's Low- to Moderate-Income Solar Pilot Program provides no- or low-cost

provides no- or low-cost photovoltaic systems to qualifying residents in low- to moderate-income markets, which have been underserved by existing renewable energy assistance programs.

## Offshore Wind

Senate Bill 170 directs DNREC to work with PJM Interconnection (the regional grid operator) on offshore wind transmission and to study and prepare recommendations for potential offshore wind procurement.

### Key Issues:

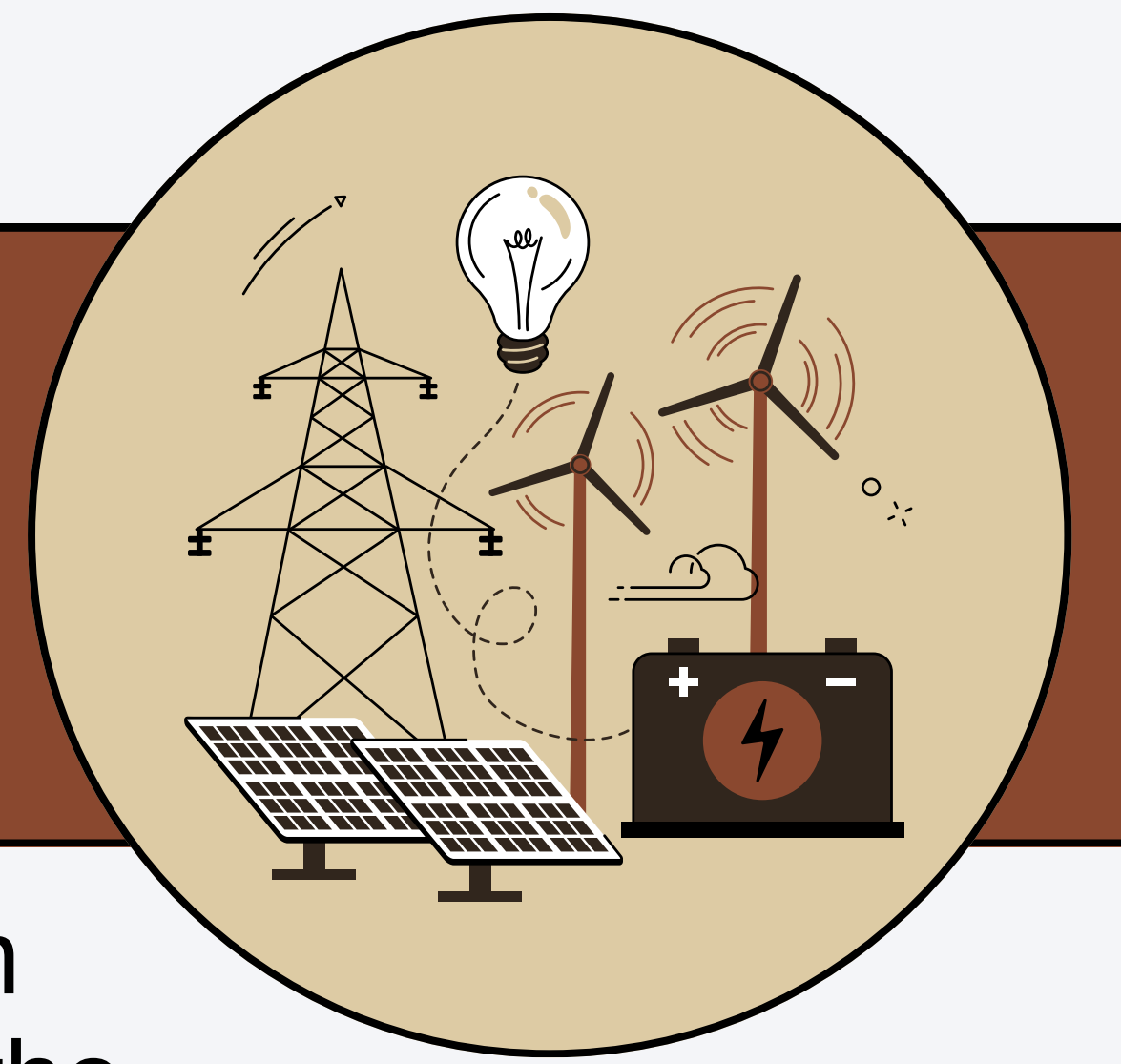
- Emerging new clean technologies like green hydrogen and small nuclear reactors
- Differences between Renewable Energy Portfolio Standards and Clean Energy Standards
- Offshore wind
- Land use impacts
- Federal funding opportunities

### Areas of Possible Recommendations:

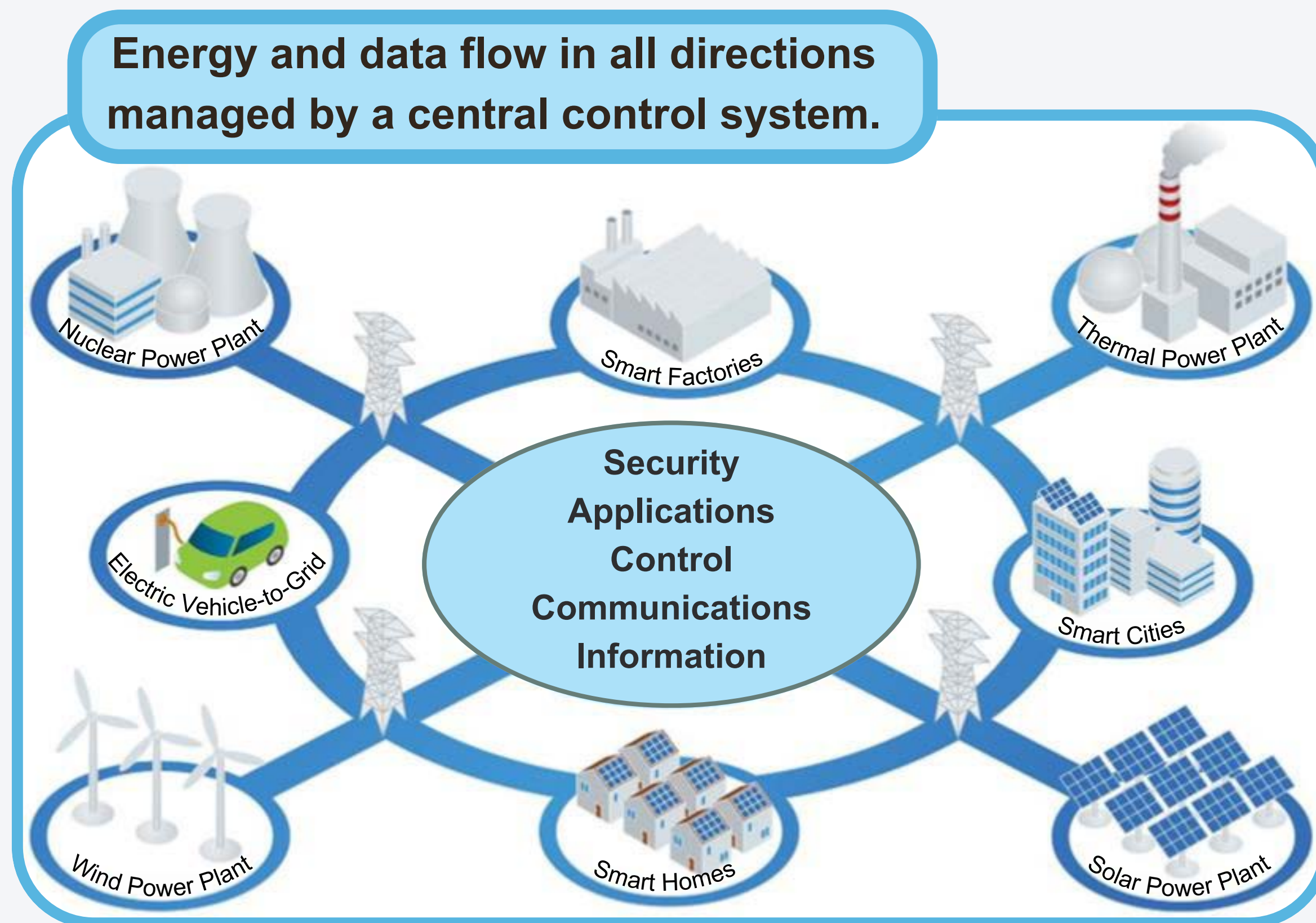
- Monitor the development of emerging technologies
- Increase in-state renewable energy generation
- Improvements to the Solar Renewable Energy Credit (SREC) market



# Grid Modernization



The Grid Modernization Working Group focuses on **resiliency, reliability, security** and expansion of the state's **electrical power transmission and distribution system**.



Delaware currently ranks 25th in the nation for total energy use per person.

US Energy Information Administration

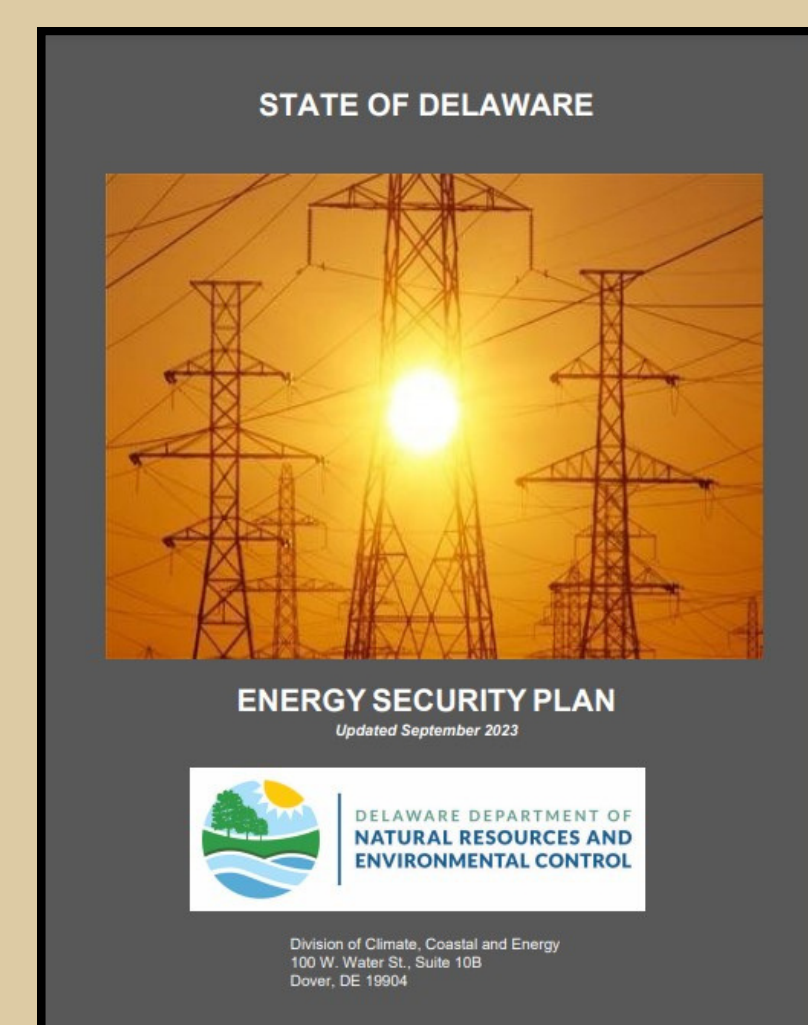
## The Delaware Energy Security Plan

### What is an Energy Emergency?

An energy emergency is an actual or expected shortage of usable, necessary energy resources that impacts the protection of public health, safety or welfare, or impacts the maintenance of a sound economy.

### Delaware's Energy Security Plan

The Delaware State Energy Security Plan (SESP) is a comprehensive manual for state government leaders charged with ensuring the health, welfare and safety of the citizens of the state during periods of energy emergencies. The plan describes the way the state will respond if a substantial energy shortage occurs or appears imminent. The Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control (DNREC) is the lead agency for energy emergency planning.



### Key Issues:

- Grid reliability
- Energy storage
- Microgrids
- Grid infrastructure

### Areas of Possible Recommendations:

- Deploying microgrid pilot projects
- Encouraging battery storage deployment for customers and at the utility scale
- Conduct statewide strategic distribution infrastructure planning



DELAWARE DEPARTMENT OF  
NATURAL RESOURCES AND  
ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL