

OFFICE OF ENERGY EFFICIENCY

“Catalyzing the natural linkage of energy, economics and environment”

SUCCESS STORY: *Energy and Environmental Interagency Group*

- *Cooperation and coordination between state agencies?*
- *Sharing information and resources?*
- *Partnership in seeking funds and serving communities?*

These methods of operation are not usually associated with government, but they are a very important part of the work for five of Ohio's state agencies in the energy and environment field. In a unique approach, staff of the Ohio Department of Development, the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency, the public Utilities Commission, the Department of Natural Resources and the Department of Administrative Services meet every six to eight weeks to plan and implement methods to work cooperatively.

The results of their collaboration may be combined a combined effort for a Earth Day celebration; or combined booth at a trade show, with knowledgeable staff from any of the agencies explaining programs and services; or a joint application for funding a program.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- ★ Successful Earth Day Fairs
- ★ Energy and Environmental Expo training programs and displays
- ★ Cross training on programs and services
- ★ Partnerships on projects for alternative fuels, materials exchange and the Ohio Environmental Network

APPROACH

In accordance with 1551.06 of the Ohio Revised Code, the Department of Development is the coordinating agency responsible for all other appropriate agencies of the state government in developing programs to conserve energy, and is responsible for minimizing duplication of effort among state agencies and programs.

To address this statutory requirement, the Energy and Environmental Interagency group was established. This group works in partnership to inform, coordinate, and integrate opportunities focusing on energy efficiency and its economic impacts. The goal of the group is to work together to promote common interests and overcome obstacles, and to develop the most useful method to continue to share information in an organized, yet informative fashion. The Energy and Environmental Interagency group meets on a regular basis, approximately once every two months, to discuss matters of common interest.

OHIO DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENT

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