



Guiding Principles: Energy

The ever-increasing cost of energy is changing the way our members do business. Reasonably priced energy from reliable, abundant sources is a critical component to a healthy and prosperous community. That is why The Chamber is monitoring energy from all angles – potential new energy sources, the impact of electricity deregulation, sustainable business development, and affordable and reliable energy.

The Chamber's Board of Directors approves the following guiding principles and strategies to improve and secure our energy future:

Guiding Principles:

- Support the development of domestically produced energy.
- Support innovation by maximizing energy diversity and power sources that are competitive, environmentally responsible, reliable and affordable.
- Support efforts that increase the efficient use of energy.
- Ensure that a reliable energy delivery infrastructure exists throughout the County and region.
- Seek stable, predictable and competitive energy costs for consumers.

Strategies:

- Educate businesses on ways to be energy efficient.
- Develop a network to facilitate information sharing and support businesses that work to reduce energy use.
- Encourage area businesses to apply to the “Green Plus” certification program.
- Encourage opportunities for in-state fuel production.
- Explore a “County Energy Template” that explains what makes Lancaster County unique.
- Encourage the state to adopt an expedited permitting process for renewable energy, alternative energy and co-generation projects that demonstrate an economic benefit to the County.
- Support the Center of Excellence in Renewable Energy.
- Educate the business community on legislative proposals in Harrisburg and Washington, D.C.

Approved by the Board of Directors, July 21, 2009.