

Community Benefit Plan

Overview

1. Identify Work Group and Impacted Communities

Working Group – Allegheny’s Working Group is currently comprised of Allegheny staff and a representative from each electric cooperative that will be impacted by the project, including board members and CEOs. The distribution cooperatives represent the impacted community for this project as the generation sites selected will be pre-existing units located throughout the PJM Interconnection footprint. Note that each Board Member is a member of that community’s cooperative and was elected to represent the cooperative by fellow members of the community. Also, each electric cooperative CEO was chosen by the locally elected board members of that community.

Allegheny Staff

- Pete Fitzgerald – Vice President, Public Affairs and Member Services
- Matt Leonard – Manager, Government and Regulatory Affairs
- Kristin Bleiler – Manager, Member Services

Cooperative Community

- Steve Rasmussen – CEO, Adams Electric Cooperative
- Matt Boshaw – CEO, Central Electric Cooperative
- Mark Morrison – CEO, New Enterprise Rural Electric Cooperative
- Chad Carrick – CEO, REA Energy Cooperative
- John Lykens – CEO, Sullivan County Rural Electric Cooperative
- Rich Bauer – CEO, Valley Rural Electric Cooperative
- Rachel Hauser – Co-CEO, Tri-County Rural Electric Cooperative
- Aaron Young - Co-CEO, Tri-County Rural Electric Cooperative
- Barb Miller – Board Member, Sussex Rural Electric Cooperative
- Tim Burkett – Board Member, United Electric Cooperative
- Ed Burris - Board Member, Warren Electric Cooperative
- Don Hoenstine - Board Member, Bedford Rural Electric Cooperative
- Lisa Chausse - Board Member, Northwestern Rural Electric Cooperative
- Gary Hennip - Board Member, Claverack Rural Electric Cooperative
- Josh Sechler - Board Member, Somerset Rural Electric Cooperative

These electric cooperative representatives are key members of their communities. They are highly engaged in civic functions as well as the local economy, and they

play an important role in supporting community initiatives. Because their membership is made up of the local residents who receive their services, they are closely tied to the people of the community and understand their needs. Their input will be invaluable in maximizing the effectiveness of the Working Group.

Impacted Community

Our project is not expected to have any impact on the community where the generation is taking place as all units selected are pre-existing. Therefore, the impacted community is the cooperative membership itself, across Pennsylvania and New Jersey.

2. Draft Transparent, Accessible, and Equitable Engagement Process

Timing

- October 30, 2024 - Working Group evaluated the generation sites and the surrounding community for any potential impacts. It was determined that as the units are pre-existing, there will be no impact of any kind at the generation site itself.
- January 17, 2025 – Allegheny will have communication assets in place to solicit feedback from community members.
- January 23, 2025 - Working Group will engage in initial outreach using both printed and digital media.
- April 15, 2025 - Working Group crafts draft CBP based on stakeholder input and community feedback. The Working Group will then solicit feedback on the draft plan.
- July 10, 2025 - Working Group will adjust CBP as necessary to reflect feedback and finalize the CBP plan.
- July 30, 2025 – Allegheny will submit the CBP to RUS.

Transparency – All meetings of the CPB Working Group will be facilitated by staff. Staff will take minutes of the meetings and report those to the membership. In addition, Allegheny will provide regular updates about the process in its printed materials to cooperative members. Also, Allegheny will create a dedicated webpage to provide information and solicit feedback.

Accessibility – Allegheny will create a dedicated email address for stakeholders and community members to participate. That will be in addition to the dedicated webpage, which will provide information and solicit feedback. Both digital and printed materials will provide a phone number for points of contact at Allegheny as well.

Equity – The majority of Disadvantaged Communities in Pennsylvania as identified by the White House Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool are within cooperative territories. These are core constituencies that we work to reach with both our printed and digital materials.

Anticipated/Initial Benefits

- Partnership with the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture – Allegheny intends to partner with the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture (PDA) to amplify communication to farmers statewide using Allegheny’s communication resources. Allegheny is currently working with the communications department of PDA to accomplish this.
 - Allegheny is partnering with PDA on the 2025 Pennsylvania Farm Show. The Pennsylvania Farm Show is a weeklong gathering of farmers, consumers and rural advocates. It is also the largest indoor agricultural event in the country. The theme for the 2025 Farm Show is “Powering Pennsylvania.” Allegheny CEO, Steve Brame, will take part in the opening ceremonies, highlighting how electric cooperatives and the agriculture community can work together. Allegheny will also look to partner with PDA on Farm Show content for farmers in the coming years.
 - Allegheny is also partnering with PDA on a workshop to help the agricultural community connect with their local cooperatives and learn about ways they can save on energy.
 - Allegheny is working with PDA on amplifying their own communications to the agricultural community by partnering with the Pennsylvania Rural Electric Association statewide magazine to place op-eds and informational columns written by PDA staff in the magazine on an ongoing basis.
- Expansion of Allegheny’s Consumer-Based Cooperative Energy Efficiency Program – Allegheny currently employs a demand-response program to reduce power purchase costs and help consumer-members save on their energy bills. Currently, the program includes 42,000 load control receivers installed on consumer-members’ appliances, 90% of which are controlling home water heaters. Allegheny intends to conduct its first-ever marketing campaign to expand consumer-member participation through both print and digital means. Participating members would not only save on their electric bills, but due to the reduced need for power purchases, the expansion of the program would also lead to a reduction in Allegheny’s carbon emissions.

- A regular column in the Pennsylvania Rural Electric Association's statewide magazine supported by Allegheny called "Energy Matters." The column would be dedicated to informing cooperative consumer-members on energy-related issues.

Key Stakeholders – Allegheny anticipates working with the following key stakeholders on its CBP:

- Distribution cooperatives in Pennsylvania and New Jersey
- The Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture
- The Pennsylvania Farm Bureau
- The Pennsylvania Building Trades Council