

## Community Solar Update – October 31, 2008

### PowerHouse Program – EnerSource Mississauga, Hydro One – Rural York Region, Hydro One Brampton

- 10 meetings June – to Sept attended by 850+ people  
169 applications for system funding submitted
- Breakdown – 148 geothermal, 14 PV, 6 SHW, 1 wind
- Mississauga Initiative for Sustainable Energy (MISE) formed and developing their project
- Hydro One \$ fully committed funds for Enersource mostly committed
- Enersource considering extended the program with own \$ next spring and possibly doing some focus group work on better marketing

### Halton Solar – Oakville, Burlington, Milton & Halton Hills

- Received funding from NRCan EcoAction program in Sept. based on January application have resources for staff through next Sept.
- Issued RFP in late August chose 3 PV and 5 SHW vendors in September
- Held public meetings around region in Oakville, Burlington, Milton and Halton Hills in last weeks of Sept. Had 175 people on email lists by September and added a further 175 through the public meetings
- Held a Solar fair on October 4<sup>th</sup> with 1 hour solar intro and vendor displays with 180+ attending and 40 people signed vendor lists for home assessments
- Have an online homeowners discussion group and have done on line survey work with email lists and are developing follow-up approach
- Group has been working with Municipal officials and hosted an Oct 28<sup>th</sup> session in Halton regional Government offices to discuss Building Permits, backflow prevention and plumbing issues with SHW systems. Are working with TSNI and CANSIA to educate officials in Region.

### York Region Solar Initiative

- Steering Committee met in August and began planning October public meetings but postponed meetings to spring 09 after the election call
- Group has applied to City of Markham Env. Committee for funds to cover marketing and venue costs for meetings, received positive response from committee and decision has been moved up to the Markham Council for approval in November
- Met with Windfall Ecology Centre staff and the WEC is very interested to collaborate on the program and bring its expertise and contacts to the endeavor given its growing solar expertise through role in TSNI as solar auditor

### WISE Project – North Toronto

- Has been disappointing uptake after vendors chosen due to uncertainty on timing of Building Permit issues resolution
- No PV sales and 4 or 5 potential SHW sales to date

### Downtown West Solar Energy Project – Central Toronto

- Project is wrapping up after two years with 12 PV systems installed and 27 SHW systems installed

### West Toronto Initiative for Solar Energy

- 8 PV systems added this year for a total of 34 and 26 SHW systems to be installed this year bringing total to 55
- Systems have received Engineers stamp and building permits are being requested
- Have been discussions with local councilor Joe Mihevc about reorganizing and expanding WISE group and relaunching the project in spring 2009.

### RISE Again - Riverdale Ward 30 Toronto

- Public meetings were done in July, email list has grown to 600 and Solar Pool party and solar Tour were successful
- RFP ready to go out once there is clarity on BP timing
- City of Toronto Solar Neighbourhood Initiative(TSNI) program has 50+ requests with 10 solar audits completed and 20 scheduled
- There are currently 4 vendors on list offering 7 different system types others under review

### Other Current Initiatives of Interest

- York University Environment students working with the York University Foundation have organized and fundraised to install a 130 KW PV system on the Faculty of Environment Studies Building on campus
- The Ontario Solar Taskforce Report went to the Minister of Energy on October 31<sup>st</sup> with recommendations on how to overcome barriers to reaching the Government's 100,000 solar roofs target
- NRCan Solar Hot Water pilot projects in Ontario
  - Sustainable Ottawa Co-op H2Ottawa project 350 units
  - Bullfrog Power for its 6000 Ontario subscribers 1200 units
  - Utilities Kingston 200 units
  - Reliance Home Services 500 units for new home construction in Ontario