What is a Clean energy district?

A Clean Energy District is a local institution created to strengthen communities by leading, implementing and accelerating the locally owned clean energy transition. Fair access to locally owned clean energy is a win-win generating community-wide energy prosperity and climate stewardship.

Clean Energy District Vision: 100% Local Renewable Efficient Energy by 2050

Energy District Community Strengthening Key Principles:

- Local leadership exists everywhere. Energy Districts empower local champions to lead the clean energy transition.
- Energy is complicated, so Energy Districts lead by doing. Energy Districts put boots on the ground providing technical assistance with high quality energy audit services, direct installation of energy saving measures and providing high quality advanced energy planning services.
- When Green Meets Green, communities unite and thrive. Locally owned energy efficiency and renewables create jobs, retain wealth, and build energy prosperity (one green), and simultaneously advance climate stewardship (another green). Ownership matters.
- Energy Districts are INCLUSIVE, and UNIVERSAL REPLICATION is fully possible. We all do better when we all do better, and the clean energy future will happen of, by, and for the people.

How Energy Districts Work

ENERGY PLANNING is energy auditing that WORKS! It includes efficiency and renewable energy, and should be available to every farm, home, business, and institution.

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT is that broad swath of education, awareness, and communications, leveraging other work.

MARKET TRANSFORMATION tunes up all cylinders of the local clean energy economy for smooth acceleration that supports contractors and businesses, creates good jobs, and keeps growing energy dollars local.

ADVOCACY priorities at the state and local levels grow out of and support boots-on-the-ground implementation work.

READINESS is also known as climate preparedness, or adaptation, and must be a community-wide and ongoing process for a generation or more.
Why Do We Need Energy Districts?

A network of Energy Districts creating equitable & local ownership of the clean energy transition will spread a powerful combination clean energy prosperity and climate stewardship throughout the Heartland and beyond.

Strengthening Community with Energy Prosperity and Climate Stewardship Impacts

- The graphic to the right represents just the tip of the iceberg of potential for ONE IOWA COUNTY

- Multiply these figures by well over an order of magnitude for Winneshiek County, and spread to every Iowa county

- The opportunity to invest in locally-owned clean energy throughout Iowa exceeds $50 billion over the coming generation

- This investment can keep billions in energy dollars local year after year, retaining wealth and creating jobs and prosperity in every single Iowa community

- Energy Districts make the clean energy transition happen for everyone

In Winneshiek County Alone...

$14 million
Local investment in energy efficiency and renewable energy to date

100+ jobs
Created or retained

100,000 tons
Carbon emissions reduced

Priceless
A rapidly growing, community-wide, energy stewardship and prosperity identity

Energy Districts Build Bridges

- Within communities, across the lines that divide us, toward a common future of prosperity and stewardship

- Between communities and counties, all working towards the common goals of a locally owned clean energy transition

- Between local, state, and federal policymakers and agencies, putting the boots on the ground to get the work done!