



Greetings Everybody!

Editor's note: We run a weekly "Google alerts" on the keywords "SWITCH Kingston Energy" to see where we are being noticed on the internet. This week the top item in our alert was news about the catastrophic coal ash spill at the Kingston Fossil Plant of the Tennessee Valley Authority. This particular news item has nothing and everything to do with SWITCH. It serves as a reminder of how important our work in alternative energy is.

Reserve the Date: Our next Open Meeting will be on **Friday, February, 6th at 8:00 am** in the Lecture Room at Queen's Innovation Park. **Warren Mabee, Queen's School of Policy Studies** will be speaking. Warren will be talking about **A Renewable Energy Region: Eastern Ontario as a Net Producer of Green Power.**

1. A special thank you to all our members for their attendance at SWITCH's Annual General Meeting last Friday.
2. A big welcome to new members **Burt's Greenhouses, John Williamson, Caitlin Newey, Louise Cooper, Jan de Bakker,** and 3 month trial member **Stephen Edmonds.**
3. SWITCH member **Gordon McAlary P. Eng.,** recently signed on with Northbridge Consultants as a Business Accounts Manager for the eastern Ontario region. Northbridge Consultants is based in Cambridge Ontario and specializes in assisting clients with their SR&ED (Scientific Research and Experimental Development) claims to the Canada Revenue Agency. If any SWITCH members are interested in learning more about Northbridge Consultants and/or the SR&ED program, Gordon can be contacted by phone, 613-384-7911 or email, gmcalary@kos.net
4. SWITCH member **Michael Tiffe, TAB Mechanical Inc.,** is running a series of evening seminars on **Greening Your Home** in January and February. Please see the attached flyer for more information about the seminars. TAB Mechanical Inc., will be presenting the seminars in conjunction with Martin Design & Drafting Studios. Please see the schedule below and/or visit the SWITCH website, *Events* page, for more information. You can contact TAB Mechanical at **613-561-8779**, or email, michael@tabmech.com

The seminars will be held from 7:00 to 9:00 pm at the following locations:

- January 13, Wellington Public Library
 - January 21, Quinte West Military Family Resource Centre
 - January 27, Cobourg Firehall
 - February 5, Madoc Public Library
 - February 10, Campbellford Public Library
 - February 17, Napanee Memorial Hall
5. **SWITCH's Annual Report** is now available on our website. The report can be found on our new *Documents* page, which can be located through the *About Us* page, <http://switchkingston.ca/switchdocs.php>. **If you can think of any people or businesses that should read our Annual Report, we ask that you please send their names to info@switchkingston.ca**
 6. **A Reminder** for anyone who is interested in learning more about the proposed Green Energy Act, to please visit <http://www.greenenergyact.ca/>

7. The City of Kingston will be holding a series of Public Consultations on the Fall 2008 Draft Official Plan. There is a sustainability section of the plan. The Open Houses will be held at the following times and locations:
 - January 26, 2 to 4 pm and 6 to 8 pm, Memorial Hall, City Hall
 - January 28, 2 to 4 pm and 6 to 8 pm, Glenburnie Fire Hall, 1485 Unity Road
 - February 2, 6 to 8 pm, Gore Road Fire Hall, 211 Gore Road
 - February 4, 6 to 8 pm, Meeting Room B, Isabel Turner Library, 935 Gardiners Road
8. **Event: Green Up! 2009** is tentatively scheduled for **Saturday, April 18th** at Portsmouth Olympic Harbour. For more information on this great annual event, please visit <http://www.greenupfestival.ca/>
9. **Event: Biomass for Rural Vitality Engagement Workshop**, January 15th, 1-3 pm, the Tamworth Legion. The workshop is being hosted by ELORIN, as part of a project to promote the production of agricultural biomass. For more information please go to http://elorin.ca/site/index.php?method=public.initiativeDetail&event_id=116 or contact Julia Bryan, bryan@elorin.ca
613-533-3300 x3
10. **Event: Panel Discussion on Renewable Energy**, January 29th, Toronto, 5:00 to 6:00 pm, followed by a reception from 6:00 to 7:00 pm. The Rotman MBA Energy & National Resources Group is hosting the panel to discuss, "The Business of Renewable Energy". For more information, please email events@rotman.utoronto.ca or call 416-978-4193. Thank you to Dean Bellefleur for mentioning this event.
11. **Event: Fostering Sustainable Behaviour Workshops**, March 30th and 31st, Toronto. To read the registration flyer, please go to <http://snipr.com/9hzoj-lyufo7>. Early registration closes on March 26th. Thank you to Betty-Anne Howard, IPG Insurance Inc., for sending the information about this event.
12. The Owl Power Company of Massachusetts has developed a cogeneration system that converts waste cooking oil on site into electricity at restaurants and food-serving facilities. Please go to <http://www.vegawatt.com/> to read more.

Hope to see you at our next Open Meeting.

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