



June 24, 2014

Mayor Linville:

This letter is to endorse Bellingham's participation in the Georgetown University Energy Prize competition. The school district is proud to participate in this quest with the city and other local organizations.

A very brief energy history is that Bellingham School District has been tracking energy use since 2003 and has partnered with Puget Sound Energy since 2008 in a Resource Conservation Management program. Since the beginning of this partnership we have raised all our schools to EPA's Energy Star level and saved the taxpayers over \$400K per year while adding two new schools to our district.

Our current energy reduction efforts include modifications to the Bellingham High School HVAC energy management system and upgrading lighting at eight locations, to LED technology. We've received a \$310K grant from OSPI to help with this work and will be using school bond funds to supplement this approximately 1 million dollar energy reduction project. The district will begin other energy reduction efforts, again focusing on HVAC controls and LED lighting upgrades, with remaining bond funds, targeted for energy reductions, after we complete the aforementioned grant work.

Our future plans continue and expand on energy reduction implementation, via classroom learning processes. We have formed an alliance with Sustainable Connections aimed at spreading the message on reducing reliance on water, sewer and waste pickup in conjunction with reductions in energy use. They have begun a Green School Challenge program, which joins with classroom teachers at local elementary schools, to teach positive resource saving behaviors to our children and will expand that program to middle and high schools over time.

We look forward to a successful project alongside you and our other partners.

With best thoughts,

Mike Anderson
Director of Buildings and Grounds
Bellingham School District

Superintendent
Greg Baker

Board of Directors
Kelly M. Bashaw
Kenneth B. Gass
Camille Diaz Hackler
Steven H. Smith
Scott Stockburger



A Community of 600+ Member Businesses

June 18, 2014

Mayor Linville:

I am writing to confirm Sustainable Connections' enthusiastic support for Bellingham's participation in the Georgetown University Energy Prize. We applaud the decision to be part of this exciting competition and we stand ready to help.

As you know, Sustainable Connections was one of the organizing partners in the Green Power Community Challenge which made Bellingham the EPA recognized #1 Green Power Community in the country in 2007 and 2008. Our experience with this campaign demonstrates that this community is committed to implementing smart, clean energy solutions. Since that time, we have partnered with the City, the Opportunity Council, energy utilities, dozens of contractors and others to design and implement the Community Energy Challenge (CEC). The CEC has implemented significant energy efficiency retrofits in more than 1000 homes and small businesses, saving more than \$1.2 million per year in energy cost city wide. We are looking forward to working with you to help scale up this effort and help Bellingham be recognized as a national leader in energy efficiency.

Sustainable Connections anticipates providing significant stakeholder feedback and support as the City develops its local energy efficiency plan. Members of our team have experience on both the planning and engineering side of energy efficiency and we are happy to lend that experience to support this effort.

For the foreseeable future we expect to continue to provide energy efficiency services through the Community Energy Challenge. Sustainable Connections manages the small business element of the CEC; presently we are completing approximately 8-12 business energy audits per month and seeing from 3-5 major retrofits come from those. While we understand that these projects don't directly impact the GUEP (which only measures residential and municipal energy use), our experience is that a good example set by businesses conserving energy will help engage residents who work or shop at those businesses. We also look forward to communicating about the GUEP with the dozens of contractors, builders, real estate professionals and other companies that are part of our Green Building program about how they can use the GUEP as a tool to encourage their clients to select energy efficient options.

Please let us know if there are other ways in which we can support the City in this exciting project.

Sincerely,

Alex Ramel
Energy and Policy Director
Sustainable Connections

Mayor Kelli Linville
City of Bellingham
210 Lottie Street
Bellingham, Washington 98225

June 24, 2014

Dear Mayor Linville,

I am writing to confirm RE Sources' support for Bellingham's participation in the Georgetown University Energy Prize. This is a great opportunity for the City, and RE Sources is willing to support the City's efforts with our Sustainable Schools program and any other way we can during the competition period.

RE Sources has been offering education programs to the Bellingham School District for nearly 20 years, helping students, teachers and families to better understand sustainability issues and solutions. In 2013, we launched a new program for elementary schools in conjunction with the Resource Conservation Managers at Bellingham Public Schools. This new program, Green Classroom Certification, is a hands-on educational experience that creates new conservation behaviors in classroom routines through education and action projects. Classrooms have three program track options, one of which is energy efficiency.

Our pilot year was incredibly successful and we believe this indicates our school community is excited about integrating sustainable energy behaviors into classrooms and bringing the information into our greater community. Ultimately, we have seen how programs like these build more awareness about how we can become a more sustainable community. This program will definitely continue to grow and we anticipate adding new tracks in the upcoming years as well.

RE Sources anticipates working with district staff to provide stakeholder feedback about the school district's role in the City's energy efficiency plan. Our Sustainable Schools team has extensive knowledge of curricular needs and is excited to support our community as we tackle this endeavor.

Our organization is committed to the work of making northwestern Washington a better, more sustainable place, and we think this effort is a great step in the right direction. Please let us know if there are other ways we can support this very important work.

Sincerely,



Crina Hoyer
Executive Director
RE Sources for Sustainable Communities



- *Smart Energy*
- *Simple Steps*
- *Serious Savings*

June 25, 2014

Mayor Linville:

I am writing to express the Opportunity Council's enthusiastic support for Bellingham's participation in the Georgetown University Energy Prize. We are looking forward to supporting Bellingham in this exciting competition.

As you know, Opportunity Council is a community action agency that acts as a catalyst for positive change in the community and in the lives of low-income and homeless people. Among our services is the low income weatherization program which has weatherized over 5,000 homes since beginning operations in the mid-1970s. We are recognized as an exemplary provider of weatherization and home repair services by the State of Washington, Department of Commerce (DoC), which manages and monitors the majority of contracts that fund the weatherization and home repair work. The Opportunity Council operates the Building Performance Center, which provides training and support for other weatherization programs.

Starting in 2010, and building on our experience, we have partnered with the City, Sustainable Connections, energy utilities, dozens of contractors and others to design and implement the Community Energy Challenge (CEC). The CEC has implemented significant energy efficiency retrofits in more than 1000 homes and small businesses, saving more than \$1.2 million per year in energy cost. We are looking forward to working with you to help scale up this effort and help Bellingham be recognized as a national leader in energy efficiency.

We expect to continue to provide energy efficiency services through the Community Energy Challenge and through the low-income weatherization program. The CEC serves about 40 homeowners per month with about half of those implementing retrofit projects. Our low-income weatherization program serves an additional 150 people per year. We also provide conservation education to 400 households each year. Many of these projects are in Bellingham, and will count towards a significant reduction in the community's energy use.

Please let us know if there are other ways in which we can support the City in this exciting project.

Sincerely,

John Davies
Director, Home Improvement Department
Opportunity Council