

Sustainability, Resilience, and Community Impact

At the heart of NOPEC's mission is an unwavering commitment to helping Ohio communities build a more sustainable, affordable, and resilient future for all. As the state's largest governmental energy aggregator, we bring together households, community leaders, regulators, and businesses to design and implement policies and action plans that drive real, measurable energy and carbon reduction. We formulate tailored solutions that embrace the unique nature and needs of our communities while striving to create more sustainable outcomes. We believe that collective action is the most powerful tool we have, and it is this belief that shapes everything we do. NOPEC views sustainability, resiliency, economic stability, and energy security as interconnected responsibilities of public energy stewardship. Our sustainability strategy is built on three complementary pillars: protecting our planet, thriving communities, and operating with integrity.

2025 STATS

(as of December 31, 2025)

36
EMPLOYEES

1,478,415
RECS RETIRED

\$22,568,649
REVENUES*

\$16,668,592
EXPENSES*

933,626
ELECTRIC
AND
NATURAL GAS
ACCOUNTS

220
ELECTRIC AGGREGATION
MEMBER COMMUNITIES

206
NATURAL GAS AGGREGATION
MEMBER COMMUNITIES

\$4,500,000+
IN ENERGY EFFICIENCY GRANTS
AWARDED TO COMMUNITIES

\$20,894,646
EARTHERA® CONTRIBUTIONS
BY NEXTERA ENERGY RESOURCES

*unaudited

Serving more than

250+
Ohio
Communities
in 20
Counties

TO VIEW THE FULL REPORT,
VISIT [NOPEC.ORG/SUSTAINABILITY](https://www.nopec.org/sustainability)



FROM GOALS TO ACTION: Supporting Communities with Technical Assistance

Encompassing NOPEC's focus on aggregation, education, and advocacy is a drive to support communities in transitioning to a low carbon economy through various forms of technical assistance. Many communities have clear goals related to energy, resilience, and economic development, but often lack the staff capacity or specialized expertise to move those goals forward. NOPEC's newly defined Technical Assistance pillar helps close that gap by providing funding, resources, and hands-on support that ease the burden on communities. Through initiatives such as small business energy audits, S.T.A.R. Program, and SolSmart Cohorts, NOPEC has delivered funding, resources, thought partnership, and technical assistance to communities across Ohio. By equipping communities with the right tools, knowledge, and support, NOPEC helps expand their capacity for impact, supporting future-ready Ohio communities.

TECHNICAL SUPPORT



AGGREGATE



EDUCATE



ADVOCATE



FUTURE INITIATIVES

NOPEC's future initiatives will strengthen Technical Support as a key link across our mission, meeting communities where they are and helping them move from education and assessment to project implementation and lasting impact.

Capacity Building:

Builds community and staff readiness through education, awareness, and outreach. Education is embedded as a thread, not a separate function.

Energy Planning & Assessment:

Absorbs technical complexity on behalf of communities through audits, inventories, readiness assessments, and decarbonization roadmaps.

Implementation Support:

Funding, financing, and operational tools that turn plans into delivered community projects.

Community Transformation:

The next frontier energy workforce development, climate action plan, select implementation support, and community-scale resiliency efforts.

POWERING OHIO COMMUNITIES



AGGREGATE



EDUCATE



ADVOCATE

PROTECTING OUR PLANET • THRIVING COMMUNITIES • OPERATING WITH INTEGRITY



JUNE 2024 - JUNE 2026

SUSTAINABILITY REPORT EXECUTIVE SUMMARY



Protecting Our Planet

Our work is guided by three key commitments designed to expand cleaner energy options, reduce emissions, and support long-term community resiliency and sustainability:

①

NOPEC offers 100% renewable electric options, making renewable energy more accessible to the communities we serve.

②

NOPEC has a goal of supporting 50% of its baseload default power with Renewable Energy Credits (RECs) by 2030, with 25% already achieved in 2025.

③

NOPEC is targeting net zero emissions by 2050 and is developing a flexible, cost-effective roadmap to help communities and customers get there.

RECs retired in 2025

1,478,415

RECs retired since 2017

13.7million

Since 2017, NextEra's partnership with NOPEC has resulted in over

\$156 million

in renewable development investments



NOPEC SOLSMART COHORT

In August 2025, NOPEC launched its first SolSmart Cohort, bringing together 20 Northeast Ohio communities to make solar energy more accessible and affordable. Through free technical assistance and peer learning, communities advanced best practices in solar permitting, planning, and zoning. By the end of the initiative, nine communities earned national SolSmart bronze or silver designation, while the remaining communities reached about 50% completion. NOPEC is the only regional entity in Ohio to receive Silver SolSmart designation.

LOWERING EMISSIONS AND INCREASING SOLAR READINESS

In 2025, NOPEC piloted its Sustainable Technical Assistance Resources (S.T.A.R.) Program in which six member communities received funding to complete greenhouse gas inventories and solar-readiness assessments. Greenhouse gas inventories give communities a baseline of where their emissions are coming from, so leaders can plan reduction initiatives. Solar-readiness assessments show whether buildings, rooftops, and other infrastructures are prepared for solar development, so communities can be better positioned to move on renewable energy development. **In 2026, five member communities are participating in this program.**

GREEN COMMUNITY CHOICE: EXPANDING ACCESS TO RENEWABLE ELECTRICITY

Since 2023, NOPEC's Green Community Choice Program has offered participating communities a default electric option backed by Green-e® Energy Certified Renewable Energy Credits (RECs) for 100% of the electricity used by enrolled residents and businesses. NOPEC also negotiated a 53% reduction on the cost of the Green Community Choice Program product adder starting with the 2026 enrollment period to make renewable electricity even more accessible and affordable for community members. **Now, households in the Green Community Choice Program are paying only about \$1.75 more per month to have 100% REC-backed electricity.**

Thriving Communities

NOPEC exists to serve its member communities, and our sustainability initiatives are designed around their needs. From energy security and climate resiliency to community vitality, we help communities grow, thrive, build lasting resilience, and advocate for the energy policies and protections their residents and businesses deserve.



CONNECTING WITH RESIDENTS ABOUT THEIR ENERGY CHOICES

NOPEC hosts in-person information meetings for residents and small businesses giving attendees an opportunity to learn more about their community's aggregation program and benefits.



REMOVING TRANSPORTATION BARRIERS TO ENERGY EDUCATION

Since 2024, through a sponsorship with the Great Lakes Science Center, NOPEC has provided busing for more than 2,000 students from Title I schools for field trips to the Science Center.



AFFORDABLE, ENERGY EFFICIENT HOUSING

In partnership with the Ashtabula County Land Bank, NOPEC helped assemble an innovative capital stack combining Land Bank funds, NOPEC PACE Financing funds, and traditional financing to support four new homes in Conneaut, Ohio. By giving new homeowners two-thirds equity from day one, the Neighborhood Next Pilot Program advances both energy efficiency and affordable housing while helping buyers access homes that might otherwise be out of reach.

To date, NOPEC has awarded over

\$62 million

in energy efficiency grants to member communities

SUSTAINABILITY RESOURCES IN ACTION: OLMSTED TOWNSHIP

Olmsted Township has made meaningful use of the wide range of programs NOPEC has to offer, emerging as a strong example of what is possible when a community fully embraces the resources available to them.

- **SolSmart Cohort (2025):** Streamlined solar permitting and updated zoning to make renewable energy more accessible for residents and businesses.
- **S.T.A.R. Program (Jan. 2026):** Completed a decarbonization assessment to get a clear picture of municipal energy use and emissions, while identifying opportunities for fleet transitions and solar installations.
- **Green Community Choice (June 2026):** Joined the program to support renewable energy procurement for the community.
- **NEC Grants (ongoing):** Advanced local sustainability efforts through NOPEC grant funding including updated LED lighting projects throughout the community.

Together, these efforts reflect Olmsted Township's commitment to fiscal responsibility, long-term planning, and a more sustainable, resilient future for its more than 16,000 residents. NOPEC is proud to support that work through ongoing sustainability programming, resources, and partnerships that help communities thrive.



Operating with Integrity

At NOPEC, earning and maintaining the trust of our member communities is of the utmost importance. Our leadership is committed to ethical conduct and transparent governance, ensuring that every decision we make reflects the best interest of the communities we serve.

SUSTAINABILITY & RESILIENCY COMMITTEE FORMATION

In 2026, we established a Sustainability & Resiliency Committee to serve as a guiding force in cultivating, maintaining, and expanding NOPEC's sustainability programming. The Sustainability & Resiliency Committee is charged with overseeing the implementation of sustainability initiatives throughout the organization and its offerings to communities. Additionally, the committee will be monitoring movement on reducing the organization's environmental footprint and tracking progress on NOPEC's sustainability goals.

“Creating a Sustainability Committee is an important next step in strengthening how NOPEC guides and supports sustainability across the organization. As Ohio communities continue to face evolving energy, resiliency, and infrastructure needs, this committee will help ensure NOPEC's efforts remain practical, accessible, and aligned with the long-term interests of the communities we serve.”

Mayor Dr. William Koons,
Village of South Russell, NOPEC Board Chair,
Geauga County Representative

ADVOCATING FOR FIRSTENERGY CUSTOMER RESTITUTION AFTER HB6

In one of the most significant consumer advocacy victories in Ohio's energy history, NOPEC played an instrumental role in securing a \$275 million settlement against FirstEnergy in connection with the HB6 corruption scandal. The case, spanning nearly nine years, centered on unlawful payments made by FirstEnergy that were secretly embedded in Ohio ratepayers' electric bills. These costs were part of a broader scheme involving bribery of high-ranking officials, including former Ohio Speaker of the House and the former chair of the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (PUCO). Alongside the Ohio Consumers' Counsel (OCC) and other parties, NOPEC fought tirelessly to hold FirstEnergy accountable and deliver justice for Ohio consumers. **As a result of the collective effort, FirstEnergy residential electric customers received about \$65 in credits on their electric bills in 2026.**

NOPEC NATURAL GAS PRICING REMAINS STEADY FOLLOWING EXTREME COLD WEATHER

When extreme cold and heavy snowfall swept across Ohio in February 2026, NOPEC's stable natural gas pricing proved its worth. **While utility Standard Choice Offer (SCO) rates climbed more than 30% in response to the harsh weather conditions, NOPEC customers were fully shielded from price hikes.** Unlike SCO rates, which adjust with monthly market fluctuations, NOPEC's Standard Program Price (SPP) is designed to provide consistency and predictability when Ohio communities need it most. In a moment when many Ohioans faced sticker shock on their energy bills, NOPEC customers had one less thing to worry about.

NOPEC EARNS NORTHCOST 99 AWARD

NOPEC earned the NorthCoast 99 Award for the first time in 2025 and was honored again in 2026, recognizing the organization as one of Northeast Ohio's best workplaces for top talent. Presented by the Employers' Resource Council (ERC), the award celebrates organizations that attract, retain, and support employees who drive results, strengthen competitive advantage, and help businesses innovate and grow.

