

Williamson Local Energy Action Plan

Prepared for the the city of Williamson, West Virginia



Project Overview

Southface developed the Williamson Local Energy Action Plan (LEAP) which seeks to achieve energy savings by investing in cost-effective and low impact technologies. The process of developing the LEAP involved analysis of the city's current energy use and assets, followed by a collaborative workshop to identify and prioritize strategies for saving energy.

Analysis

Current energy use data was identified with an inventory of local energy use (e.g., utility bills) and background information on energy. State-wide data regarding energy sources and end-user analysis of this information provided insight into the areas of greatest energy consumption. Analyses included:

- A high-level analysis of municipal buildings' energy use.
- An analysis of viable local sources of renewable energy.

Charrette

The analysis of data was followed by a charrette—a collaborative workshop—with diverse participants, including city personnel, Mingo County employees, members of various city boards and Williamson citizens. The charrette helped prioritize goals and revealed local and regional assets that the city can leverage to achieve energy savings, as well as barriers that might hinder otherwise viable energy savings strategies.

Southface received assistance from the Appalachian Regional Commission, U.S. Department of Energy and the U.S. Department of Agriculture in the preparation of this LEAP.

Outcomes and Recommendations

- A discussion regarding financing sources.
- Recommendations on how to reduce energy consumption of Williamson's buildings, water and sewage treatment plants, and vehicles.
- A smart office to showcase energy saving techniques, spark entrepreneurship and train 95 individuals in energy efficiency, green building standards and solar technology.
- Demonstration projects that will result in three solar installations.



In the modeled analysis of the Williamson Emergency Services building, ENERGY STAR® certification would have provided an annual savings of at least \$2,500 for the city.