



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### Lebanon County Passes C-PACE Resolution

**LEBANON, PA., December 2, 2019** – On Thursday, November 21, 2019, Lebanon County Commissioners approved a resolution to implement Commercial Property Assessed Clean Energy (C-PACE). The county was approached by a developer looking to use C-PACE financing to support construction of a new 51,286-ft hotel off the exit at Interstate 81 in Jonestown.

After two previous public discussions on the program, Chairman Robert J. Phillips called for a motion to approve that was seconded by Commissioner William E. Ames. Jo Ellen Litz spoke briefly in favor of the program and its ability to help commercial property owners save energy and money. The commissioners voted unanimously in favor of the resolution.

Upon resolution, Lebanon County named Sustainable Energy Fund (SEF) to administer the program. SEF is positioned to administer C-PACE at no cost for any other interested county in Pennsylvania. For more information on program development, program guidelines, and links to the preapplication, visit [PennsylvaniaCPACE.org](http://PennsylvaniaCPACE.org). If you have a project and would like assistance finding a contractor or capital provider contact SEF at (610) 264-4440.

Now that a resolution has been passed, Lebanon County commercial businesses, agriculture interests, and nonprofits, with the aid of private capital providers, will be able to finance clean energy and water efficiency projects. The C-PACE program, offering as much as 100% financing, will save local constituencies money and energy, providing even greater opportunity to those with initiative.

“Sustainable Energy Fund is proud to offer its 20 years of experience in clean energy lending to Lebanon County, allowing them to take advantage of this powerful new energy finance tool for bringing investment, jobs, and clean energy to their communities,” said John Costlow, President of SEF.

Commercial Property Assessed Clean Energy (C-PACE) is a financial tool for property owners to obtain low-cost, long-term financing for energy efficiency, renewable energy, and water conservation projects. C-PACE can facilitate a loan from private capital sources for a project by placing a voluntary special payment on the property’s annual tax bill that repays the cost of the upgrades. Nationally, more than \$750 million has been invested through PACE loans, and many industry experts expect that number to exceed \$1 billion in the next 18 months. In Pennsylvania, C-PACE investment could help retrofit one of the nation’s oldest building stocks and accelerate growth in a local energy efficiency industry that already accounts for 65,000 jobs.

“C-PACE is a win-win-win for Pennsylvania communities,” said KEEA Policy Director Julian Boggs. “It makes financing energy efficiency easier, which means more work for companies that retrofit buildings, sell high-efficiency equipment, and design smart buildings.”

Pennsylvania joined the more than 30 states who have enabled C-PACE in June 2018 with the passage of SB 234. Four interested public-sector organizations then collaborated to develop the C-PACE program in Pennsylvania: Keystone Energy Efficiency Alliance (KEEA), Philadelphia Energy Authority, City of Pittsburgh Sustainability Commission, and Sustainable Energy Fund.

## **About Sustainable Energy Fund**

Sustainable Energy Fund (SEF), a nonprofit organization, assists energy users in overcoming financial, educational and regulatory barriers to a sustainable energy future. SEF provides a variety of services including financing energy conservation, energy efficiency and renewable energy projects; educating the leaders of today and tomorrow to create a passion for sustainable energy; and representing the interests of energy conservation, energy efficiency and renewable energy in proceedings before the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission. Visit [www.theseef.org](http://www.theseef.org).

## **About Keystone Energy Efficiency Alliance**

The Keystone Energy Efficiency Alliance is a trade association of businesses, nonprofits, and institutions working to advance energy efficiency and energy conservation in Pennsylvania. Learn more at [www.kealliance.org](http://www.kealliance.org)

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