Today's Agenda

1:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.	Sign-In and Networking
1:30 p.m. – 1:40 p.m.	Introduction – Matt Lindsay, MVRPC
1:40 p.m. – 2:35 p.m.	Panel 1: Ohio Department of Development, Office of Energy and Environment

Energy Programs Manager Caroline Johnstone, Energy Program Specialist Manny Anunike, Energy Loan Coordinator Karla Gulker, and Coal and Energy Program Coordinator Kevin Smith will give a full overview of the energy-saving programs available through their office, as well as new programs in the offing funded through the IIJA. The programs include the Energy Efficiency Program (EEP), Energy Loan Fund (ELF), and the Ohio Coal Research and Development Program. These programs are available for local governments and businesses in Ohio.

2:35 p.m. – 2:55 p.m.	Break and Networking
2:55 p.m. – 3:50 p.m.	Panel 2: Power a Clean Future Ohio and City of Bexley

Executive Director Joe Flarida. PCFO Deputy Director Cassandra Clevenger, and Jon-Paul d'Aversa of Unpredictable City will walk us through the many provisions of the Inflation Reduction Act designed to address the climate crisis. Many of these programs are only in the beginning stages of federal implementation, but this overview will provide a glimpse of funding opportunities to come for local government, businesses, and private citizens. Also, Elizabeth Ellman, Sustainability Programs Coordinator for the City of Bexley, Ohio, will share Bexley's experience working with PCFO to develop a greenhouse gas inventory for the City and how that is being used to develop Bexley's Climate Action Plan.

Wrap-ups and Closing 3:50 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.





Understanding the Opportunities in IIJA and IRA April 17, 2023

Today's Speakers

Panel 1



Caroline Johnstone is the Energy Programs Manager in the Office of Energy and Environment. Caroline has been with Development since May 2022 and previously worked for Montgomery County, Ohio as a GIS analyst. She graduated from the University of Dayton in 2019 with a degree in geology, GIS certificate, and minors in sustainability, energy, and the environment (SEE) and biology.



Manny Anunike is an Energy Specialist with the Ohio Department of Development, where he assists with Development's energy efficiency an renewable energy matters. Dr. Anunike is a Senior Member of The Association of Energy Engineers.



Kevin Smith is the Coal and Energy Programs Coordinator for the Office of Energy and Environment within Development. He has been in his role for just over 2 months. He is currently working to getting the State Coal program up and running again as it has been dormant since Covid-19 started in 2020.



Karla Gulker is the Energy Loan Program Coordinator for the Office of Energy and Environment (OEE). She has a been with OEE since December of 2021. Prior to this position she worked as a Project Manager for the largest solar installation company in West Virginia. She has a bachelor's degree in Social Science from Shawnee State University and a master's degree in African Studies from Ohio University.

Panel 2

Joe Flarida is the Executive Director of Power a Clean Future Ohio, an expansive coalition of organizations that works with cities and municipalities in Ohio to develop community-driven carbon reduction strategies. Power a Clean Future Ohio empowers local governments and community members by providing tools and resources to implement climate action plans and clean energy policies that are achievable, measurable, equitable, and economical. Joe previously worked in the U.S. House of Representatives for the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology and was a Robert Bosch Fellow in Germany in 2018 and 2019, where he examined Germany's energy transition.

Cassandra Clevenger is the Deputy Director of Power a Clean Future Ohio (PCFO), where she oversees day-to-day operations, including coordination of the Infrastructure Grant Assistance Program (IGAP). PCFO empowers local governments and community members to implement achievable, measurable, equitable, and economical climate action plans and clean energy policies. Before her current role, Cassandra worked in community development and planning. She built capacity and strengthened federal, state, and philanthropic fundraising efforts for community-based projects and coalitions. Cassandra's mission is to ensure that communities in Ohio have all the necessary tools to take equitable strides toward addressing climate change in their own backyards.

Jon-Paul d'Aversa of UNPREDICTABLEcity works with governments, nonprofit organizations, and community groups to strengthen the foundations of change in our built environment. With PCFO's technical team, Jon-Paul leads greenhouse gas inventory services, tree canopy assessments, and solar market development for local governments across Ohio.

Sea levels are rising, and so is **Elizabeth Ellman**, the Sustainability Programs Coordinator for the City of Bexley, Ohio. With enthusiasm, she implements forward-thinking programs and policies across multiple sectors of her community to inspire, innovate, educate, and create change.







