

HREG believes we have a choice to live in a responsible and sustainable manner, achievable through renewable energy technologies, energy efficiency measures, and proper planning of our cities and communities.

Mission

Further the development of renewable energy and related arts, sciences, and technologies with concern for the ecological, social, and economic fabric of our community and state.

HREG serves to inform the public, institutional and governmental bodies and seeks to raise the level of awareness of the infinite power of renewable energy.

JOIN TODAY



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Renewable Energy

- Solar - Thermal
- Solar - Photovoltaic
- Wind Power
- Hydro Power
- Geothermal
- Biomass (Bio Fuels)
- Efficiency
- Conservation



Please contact us for further information

To join our free message list, e-mail us

e-mail: hreg@txses.org

website: www.txses.org/hreg

Houston Renewable Energy Group



The Houston Renewable Energy Group is a recognized local chapter of the Texas Solar Energy Society

Our primary goal is public education

Our aim is a cleaner and **greener**, sustainable Houston

Sustainable Living

Houston Renewable Energy Group

Who We Are

Officially established in 1999 as a chapter of the Texas Solar Energy Society, with energetic enthusiasts from all walks of life, the group actually has a long history. Many members have been active for years in the movement toward clean energy.

We are architects, engineers, teachers, retirees, business men/women and homeowners—conscientious citizens.

The group meets quarterly on Sunday afternoons at University of Houston College of Architecture, 4800 Calhoun Road, Houston TX 77004. Please visit our website for meeting details and examples of past HREG activities.

HREG conducts much of its business via its eGroup, since we are so spread out in the Houston area and beyond.



To contact the focal points or join the group, send an e-mail to hreg@txses.org.

HREG is a regional, non-profit, volunteer organization. Membership is open to anybody with an interest.

Houston Highlights

School crossing signs in Houston are powered by solar energy panels, following a program that installed over 1000 systems. Houston's own TSU has a 4000 Watt solar photovoltaic (PV) system next to its School of Technology. The University of Texas—Houston Health Science Center recently dedicated its solar PV system, which at over 50,000 Watts includes roof mounted systems and PV awnings on classroom building



windows. HREG hopes to see a lot more of these projects in and around our "green" bayou city.

The Basic Principles

The following basic principles can assure economic payback of renewable energy systems:

- *Suitable Technologies* (suited to available solar and wind energy, climate, usage, conditions, infrastructure, and resources)
- *Energy Efficiency* (requiring less energy for the same application or avoiding use)
- *Proper System Sizing* (matching capability to real needs)



Transportation Alternatives

A light rail system for Houston has been given the green light. The region is still very highly dependent on fossil-fueled automobiles for mobility. Ethanol and other alternative fueled vehicles have been around for years, but economics and initiative have been missing from the picture. Now, AFVs (Alternative Fuel Vehicles) are on the rise, with ethanol derived from biomass very visible on the horizon. The operation of AFVs produce no net increase in carbon dioxide in the atmosphere and do not contribute to air pollution. Houston needs a drive toward building the AFV infrastructure, such as distribution networks and stations.

The Next Steps

Favorable economics are already here for renewable energy. Technology is here and ready for wide-scale implementation. The ability of Houston to be sustainable, clean, and attractive to high tech industries key to economic growth depends on education and initiative. HREG hopes to have a key support role in this vision for Houston, through participation in Earth Day and other events,



and other events, hosting seminars and workshops, and providing information to the yearning public.