

STC REGION TODAY

Chemung, Schuyler and Steuben Counties

New York State

Fall 2011

Appalachian Regional Commission Applications Have Been Completed



STC solicited ARC pre-applications in early May and by mid-June received 10 ARC pre-applications requesting \$1,053,700. Each STC county was well represented, with 6 applications received for Steuben, 2 for Schuyler, and 2 for Chemung. STC requested full applications for 8 of the projects. By September, 6 applicants completed the ARC full applications, which STC submitted to the NYS Department of State for review. Funding announcements are expected by next summer.

The projects submitted are as follows:

Unified Telecommunication System Project at Schuyler County - sponsored by the Schuyler Hospital, this project will upgrade and enhance the primary core telecommunication system within the Schuyler Hospital main campus and all affiliated satellite facilities via installation and implementation of new technology communication equipment.
ARC\$150,000 TOTAL - \$373,726

Route 21 Sewer Extension - sponsored by the City of Hornell, which intends to extend sewer services to connect businesses (including a shopping plaza) in the western part of the city.
ARC - \$150,000 TOTAL - \$561,688.50

Seneca Lake/Seneca Canal Waterfront Development Plan - sponsored by Schuyler County Partnership for Economic Development (SCOPEd), this project is to further refine key elements of the Watkins Glen Lakefront Management and Development Strategy.
ARC - \$15,000 TOTAL - \$30,000

Village Square Wastewater Planning Project - sponsored by the Village of Hammondsport, the project will examine the practicality of developing a wastewater collection and treatment system to serve the core business district, recommend the most appropriate long term solution, address environmental review issues, and develop a project financing plan.
ARC - \$6,100 TOTAL - \$12,200

Digital W/S Infrastructure and Mapping Accessibility Project - Steuben - sponsored by Southern Tier Central Regional Planning and Development Board this project will digitize water and sewer infrastructure maps for the STC Region. In addition, this project will collect existing data on infrastructure and zoning and make all accessible for download through STC's regional data warehouse and viewable through STC's GIS viewer.
ARC - \$22,600 TOTAL - \$45,350

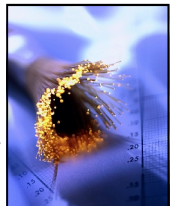
B&H Railroad Bridge Timber Deck Replacement - sponsored by the Steuben County Industrial Development Agency for replacement of railroad bridge timber decks along with associated structural and masonry bridge repairs on four (4) railroad bridges on the B&H Rail corp. main line track
ARC - \$150,000 TOTAL - \$300,000

ARC Projects Funded

2 ARC projects received funding recently: the Town of Campbell Water District received \$150,000 for construction of a new water main, and the Schuyler County Child Care Center was awarded \$150,000 for a new program offering quality care for infants to preschoolers as well as school-age care.

Southern Tier Network: High Speed Broadband for the Southern Tier Central Region

National news picked up the story of the formation of the Southern Tier Network (STN), a public private partnership and an open access model that will provide telecommunications infrastructure that can be used by virtually any organization. STC Executive Director Marcia Weber is chair of the STN Board of Directors and says they are "excited about creating a globally competitive advantage for the region, providing telecommunications technology that will enable significantly greater bandwidth and the highest available connectivity speeds in our region."



Launched in February 2011 with a \$10 million grant from Corning Incorporated and \$2.2 million from Chemung, Schuyler, and Steuben Counties, the Southern Tier Network is moving forward rapidly in building an optical fiber broadband network in the three counties. The route has been mapped, with engineers determining the best placement of the optical fiber ring. Talks are underway with businesses, schools, public safety departments, government, and health care facilities to configure networks for those future clients. The project construction will be going out to bid in October 2011.

"The Southern Tier Network board believes that this network will be a catalyst for future economic development within the region and that it will drive new and improved capabilities including 4G wireless and fiber-to-the-home and fiber-to-the-premises services," said Marcia Weber.

2011 Regional Leadership Conference



*Mark Alger, Steuben
County Administrator*



*Phil Palmesano
Member of Assembly*

More than 450 local officials, community leaders, presenters and exhibitors attended the 15th annual STC Regional Leadership Conference on April 14th at Corning Community College. This year's theme was "Educating our Public Servants with Strategies to serve our Communities."

The conference kicked off with a welcome from Mr. Ted Bennett and Ms. Chelsea Robertson of the Conference Planning Committee. Steuben County Administrator, Mark Alger delivered a keynote address which spoke of the struggles that municipalities and the county will be facing in the coming years financially, should a property tax cap be implemented by New York State. Assembly Member Phil Palmesano gave a lunch time address to the participants that built upon the keynotes address concerning property tax cap and unfunded mandate relief.

There were 32 classes throughout the day on a variety of topics including planning and zoning issues, impacts of Marcellus Shale drilling, code enforcement issues, Municipal dissolution, green infrastructure, financing, land conservation and a variety of other practical topics. A total of 30 businesses and agencies displayed their products and services at the trade show.

County participation was as strong as ever this year. A total of 75 municipalities out of 76 were represented in this year's conference. With representation from planning boards, town boards, zoning board of appeals, justices, clerks, court clerks, supervisors, highway departments, county officials and code enforcement officers.

Lastly, the conference was only made possible by STC sponsorship supported in part by Appalachian Regional Commission, Sponsorship from Three Rivers Development Corporation and a total of \$5,900 in donations!"

LOOK
for Changes in the Conference
Coming in 2012.

"As usual the conference will be held the second week of April, but days and times may vary."

Door Prizes were awarded to:

Sorge's Gift Certificate - Karen Palmer, Town of Howard
Wine Basket - John Bond, Town of Hector
Coffee / Tea Basket - Mike Luffred, Town of Bath
Bird Feeder and Seed - Richard Coon, Town of Veteran

Fully Updated 2012 CEDS and County Profiles are now Available

As required by the EDA, STC has completely updated the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy. The brand new document is based on community input, the most up-to-date data, and new ideas in economic development. The 2012 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) is now available on the STC website at www.stcplanning.org and includes new informational and engaging graphics, along with the topic-specific recommendations of the Economic Development Policy Committee.

The 2012 CEDS will continue to be a 'work in progress', STC staff will continually update this document based on NYS policy changes, new data, and trends throughout the STC region. The CEDS functions as a recommendation for how to guide development in Schuyler, Chemung, and Steuben Counties; furthermore, the CEDS expresses regional support for proposed projects. Victoria Ehlen, STC's Economic Development Coordinator, will begin meeting with local organizations to discuss any necessary additions to the CEDS. If you have any questions regarding the CEDS or would like a copy, please contact STC.

STC is sending an excerpt from the CEDS to each municipality & planning board in the STC region. STC plans to promote the use of the CEDS by municipalities and local organizations, through informational meetings, mailings, and one-on-one instruction.

The 2012 Chemung; Schuyler; and Steuben County Profiles are available. If you have any questions regarding the CEDS or the Profiles or would like a copy, please contact STC or visit our website.

Marcellus Shale



The exploration for natural gas in the Marcellus Shale formation presents unique challenges for many New York municipalities. Most communities, who should be at the forefront of the development occurring in their municipalities, are not sufficiently knowledgeable or equipped to handle the planning implications of natural gas development or other large scale energy developments; e.g. wind farms.

Because the energy industry and specifically energy development is at the forefront of many discussions in our region and this has left many municipalities wondering what they can do to prepare for it—Southern Tier Central Regional Planning & Development Board in cooperation with planners from Chemung, Steuben, and Schuyler Counties got together in early 2011 to create a condensed, easy-to-read land-use guide for local officials and residents. The guide provides an introduction to planning and its application to the energy industry as well as online resources and a checklist municipalities can follow to prepare for energy development. The agencies involved in the creation of this guide worked hard so that our communities can be prepared for energy development. The energy guide will be available at the end of October 2011, stay touch and please visit www.stcplanning.org for more energy related information.

The Department of Environmental Conservation regulates the development and production of oil and gas resources in New York State. The development of a potentially significant gas resource in the Marcellus Shale uses horizontal drilling and a high-volume hydraulic fracturing technique known as "slick water fracturing." This technique requires large volumes of water and requires further review under the State Environmental Quality Review Act ("SEQRA") before any well permits can be issued.



September 7, 2011 - DEC released the [Revised Draft SGEIS](#) and supporting socioeconomic study. The public comment period was opened and will conclude on December 12, 2011. The Final SGEIS will be prepared after consideration of public comments and will set additional parameters for SEQRA review. The Department will then process and, as appropriate, issue well permits for gas well development using high-volume hydraulic fracturing in accordance with both the GEIS and the SGEIS.

Please visit DEC's website for more information: <http://www.dec.ny.gov/energy/47554.html>

Updates from Regional Natural Gas Task Forces

Chemung County Executive's Advisory Commission on Natural Energy Solutions

<http://www.chemungcounty.com/index.asp?pagelid=468>

- Established a website
- Pass official recommendation advising towns to enter a road analysis study (w/ Delta Engineering)
- Trained a deputy to enforce truck/ vehicle regulations
- Firefighters have been receiving training specific to gas well emergencies
- Task force members attended workshops, panel discussions, & information sessions for the past couple of years
- EMC in conjunction w/ Elmira College has conducted a water quality baseline study for methane & a few other related elements
- Met with Casella for information on the safety of the drill cuttings & related topics

Schuyler County Energy Task Force

<http://www.schuylerenergy.org/>

- Established a website
- Released informational guidance sheet, *Managing your Private Water Supply Related to Natural Gas Development in Schuyler County (July 2011)*
- Hosted a *task force intern* for the summer 2011
- Surveying task force members & municipal officials to create a focused, concise resource binder/ resource suite
- Proposed work with the Schuyler County EMC on providing comments on the revised Supplemental Generic Environmental Impact Statement (SGEIS) for high-volume hydraulic fracturing
- Most towns have either signed on with Delta Engineers for assistance with road assessment and RUAs or are working with other engineering firms to accomplish similar services

Steuben County Natural Gas Task Force

<http://www.steubencony.org/naturalgastaskforce/index.html>

- Established a website
- Hold multiple monthly public meetings
- Completed memorandum reviewing the *Thirty Day Limit on Occupancy Tax* or room tax
- Completed road maintenance agreement (RUA)
- Completed radioactive study, *Marcellus Shale Evaluation*, on drill cuttings risk to county landfill
- Passed a housing resolution
- Amended site plan review law
- Held educational forums for town supervisors, public safety officers, and planning boards officials
- Proposed meeting with owners of camping/ RV parks on possible impacts by natural gas workforce

This report has been funded in part by the following Federal and State agencies: American Recovery and Reinvestment Act; Appalachian Regional Commission; U.S. Department of Commerce Economic Development Administration; U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) through Section 604(b) of the Clean Water Act (administered by the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation [NYSDEC]); New York State Department of State; Susquehanna River Basin Coalition; Southern Tier Network; and local communities.

Flood Resistant Southern Tier



Flooding is a fact of life in the Southern Tier of New York. We were reminded of this once again when Tropical Storm Lee dropped up to a foot of rain that wreaked havoc in parts of Chemung County and areas to the east – again! But just because

flooding is a fact of life, that doesn't mean that devastating flood losses must be. As we provide support and assistance to flood-damaged communities we should also renew our commitment to making all of our communities more "flood resistant."

What can we do to protect our region from flood damage? It would be nice if we had a big umbrella to put up when we've had enough rain. But there is no single project or strategy that can protect us. Instead we need to pay attention to water everywhere in the landscape. This includes:

- good weather forecasts,
- gauges to measure rain and snow as it falls,
- runoff management throughout the watershed (slow it down; spread it out; soak it in),
- projects that protect and restore watershed functions (such as wetland construction),
- maintenance and improvement of roadside ditches and other drainageways,
- land use strategies that give streams "room to roam,"
- accurate mapping of flood hazard areas,
- management of any new development in flood-prone locations,
- "floodproofing" of existing flood-prone development (or removal where appropriate),
- adequate insurance coverage,
- stream gauges to monitor flow, maintenance and operation of flood control structures,
- public knowledge about flood safety,
- emergency plans for households, businesses, schools, and other facilities,
- up-to-date disaster plans for local governments,
- training and equipment to implement emergency and disaster plans,
- forecasts of flash flood and river flood conditions,
- inundation maps indicating areas likely to be flooded,

- dissemination of flood warnings,
- effective emergency response, and responsible public that heeds warnings and evacuation orders.

We all have a role in building communities that are resilient to flood damage. Thank you for doing your part. (Additional information is at www.stcplanning.org; select Flood Mitigation from the Program Areas menu.)

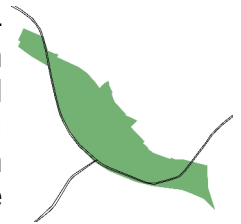


Never drive on flooded roads: About half of all flood related fatalities occur in automobiles. Less than a foot of water will float many vehicles – less if the water is moving. And it only takes a few inches of muddy floodwater to hide a washed-out road surface. So when a road is flooded – Turn Around; Don't Drown!

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Erwin / Painted Post / Riverside BOA Moving Forward

After a comprehensive pre-nomination process and nomination application, NYS has approved and funded the E/PP/R Brownfield Opportunity Area (BOA) Nomination Study. The study will build on the prior activities of these three Municipalities and STC. As the project administrator for the E/PP/R BOA, STC has facilitated the consultant selection Qualifications Based Selection process (QBS). Several well-qualified firms have expressed interest. These firms will submit project proposals in October.



We expect work to begin on the following tasks, in December 2011: ■ W. Water Street Site - Access Bridge Feasibility Study; ■ Real-estate Analysis; ■ Eight detailed site assessments; ■ Economic and Market Trends Analysis; ■ Traffic and Parking Analysis; and ■ Business Retention and Recruitment Strategy.

Susquehanna-Chemung Action Plan Meets with Stakeholders



The past year has been filled with information gathering sessions at events around the Susquehanna and Chemung watersheds. The sessions provided opportunities to meet with stakeholders of the Action Plan. In

June we met with a great group of river enthusiasts who were participating in the Susquehanna Sojourn. We joined this group at their lunch time stop at a boat launch in Nineveh, NY to discuss issues and suggestions concerning "Outdoor Recreation" in the watershed. We left this stakeholder meeting not only with many great comments and ideas concerning recreation, but also with full tummies and a few hundred mosquito bites! It's all a part of outdoor recreation, right? Many other stakeholder meetings, surveys, and interviews have occurred over the past year to complete this plan.

If you haven't looked at the website in awhile, it is time to check out the new and exciting things that have been added: www.Susquehanna-Chemung.org.

It includes a new GIS Map viewer, draft recommendations, and links to information about the many topics addressed by the Action Plan. To get involved or join the mailing list, email Chelsea Robertson at: plan@stny.rr.com.

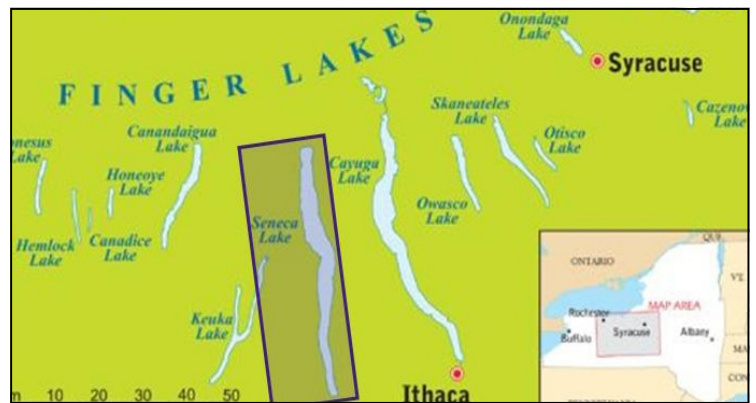
STC Data Warehouse

The STC data warehouse has been up and running for approximately a year. There has been a lot of interest having different data sets on the warehouse to the point where the hard drives ran out of space. New larger drives were purchased and are going to be installed in September. The server may be down at times for this upgrade. We are going to try to keep down time to a minimum. Schuyler and Chemung Counties are utilizing the viewers on the server with linkage to their SDG (Systems Development Group) Image Mate Online to access to their Real Property information on the web. The STC viewers are the GIS Map that displays the parcel selected with the Image Mate Online. Custom viewers have been created for STC projects. One viewer is for the Susquehanna Chemung Action Plan. This viewer was built using ESRI's flex framework and utilizes some publicly hosted data for the aerial images and data that resides on the STC warehouse server. <http://www.stcgis.org/scatlas/>

Data Collection for the Seneca Lake Management Plan

The Seneca Lake Watershed Management Plan has continued to move forward in updating the 1999 plan *for Setting a Course for Seneca Lake*. The Project Advisory Committee for the plan meets bi-monthly in conjunction with the SLAP-5 (Seneca Lake Area Partners – 5 Counties) meeting. These meetings rotate around the lake with each county having an opportunity to host the meeting.

The plan is underway with all kinds of activities on Seneca lake and in the Seneca Lake watershed. New, updated mapping of the lake is being completed, current water samples are being studied and local laws have been collected. This watershed management plan will include an assessment of local laws and a build out analysis for the watershed. All of these elements will come together into a full plan by the spring of 2013.



Phishing

Phishing essentially an online con game. This "spoofing" technique is to use fake emails and websites to gain personal information by tricking people into divulging sensitive information. The phony information looks reputable but is not what the user thinks. Unsuspecting recipients will go to the website or click on links in the emails and will find that a website opens up that resembles the reputable website. However, the computer users do not know that behind the scenes, they have been redirected to another web page that looks just like the page they may have visited in the past. This phony website is designed to collect users' information. The 3 rules are: do be suspicious of any email and delete those you question, do not click on links in any emails that you doubt at all, and do not fill out any forms or share personal information, whether in an email or on a website.

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