



http://www.kingstreenews.com/news/green-technology-focuses-on-lane/article_8c1280cf-0d3e-55c0-99bc-48c120ac02f7.html

Green technology focuses on Lane

BY MICHAELE DUKE news@kingstreenews.com Feb 8, 2016



VINCENT I. WHITE of CETS Waste to Energy, Inc. was one of several speakers invited to a community meeting in Lane. White proposes to locate a green technology industry to the area. PHOTO BY MICHAELE DUKE

Reducing statewide carbon emissions will be part of Williamsburg County economics if the Town of Lane has anything to do with it. The idea of turning waste to energy - on the local level - was introduced by several stakeholders during a January 29, meeting which was hosted by Town of Lane Mayor Charlie Fulton.

Fulton is focused on bringing green technology to the people and he's well on his way to achieving that goal. His invited guests included Vincent I. White, CETS Waste to Energy, Inc. White proposes to locate an industry in Lane that can convert waste to renewable, recyclable material while training its citizens

to be able to work the equipment that will use the material.

White said they have signed a letter of intent to move forward on a pilot program. He said a 3.2 million square foot eco-center complex will include mobile units that can recycle municipal, organic and hazardous, everything into a waste-to-energy or waste-to-fertilizer with no emissions. The materials will come from a 90-mile radius with Lane at ground zero.

The planned rollout is 120 days but the first step will be to undergo an assessment of the area.

“We’re in the process now of raising the capital to do that assessment,” said White. “And that assessment consists of looking at all the gaps, looking at assessing the skill sets in a 90 mile radius, because we’re looking to train and job place and certify and place about 7,200 people per year once this center gets up.”

Chrita Paulin, CEO of Sunny State Solar Solutions based in Florida, will be heading up the training side of the initiative. She said training would include solar installation; therefore, allowing the worker to become certified to work as an installer.

“We’re hoping that some of the residents of Lane will come in and get the training and those same individuals will then go forth and work in the solar farm that Sunny State Solar Solutions is planning on developing,” said Paulin. She said they are working to coordinate with some of the programs within the state so that costs will be as feasible as possible. “As soon as we get all that wrapped up we want to come in and start doing some of the training virtually immediately.”

In 2011, SNRY Solar Energy Initiatives was up fitting a 200,000 sq. ft. former textile plant in Kingstree, the first phase of a solar academy for builders, contactors and electricians as well as serve as a distribution center, but the project never made it off the ground.

Fulton said their initiative cannot compare. “Unlike the other solar company that didn’t come, this company is capitalizing on the president’s renewable energy initiative,” said Fulton. “They have been made aware that the county has developed an intolerance for broken promises. This is not a fly-by-night opportunity that has come our way. Through much prayer and scrutiny, this is going to happen and will be a major boost to our community and county.”

In addition to Paulin's proposed training, a business plan presented by Ltti Rahl Construction based in Allendale foresees an Internet Service Provider (ISP) central hub, data warehouse, and business call centers being constructed in the area. Much more was discussed during the four-hour meeting.

I'm excited for Lane," said Representative Cezar McKnight (D. Williamsburg and Clarendon). "This is the second time in about three months Mayor (Charlie) Fulton has had a business come in and had a proposal put forth to grow Lane economically. We have to give Mayor Fulton kudos for being proactive. Nothing will work unless you do and clearly he's working."

Jim Moore, Director, Williamsburg County Economic Development Board, echoed the legislator's remarks. "He is out there, he's in front of folks," said Moore. "He's plugged in with the technical college system so he's able to understand a little bit better than some folks what kind of needs that industry has out there.

I think this is kind of a leading edge of growth that we are going to continue to see for the next few years...As Berkeley County gets more and more busy and fuller and fuller we're going to see more companies take advantage of opportunities that are here in Williamsburg County and Lane will be one of the first barriers crossed."



Mayor Fulton has put many hours into the negotiations and is ready to see the initiative get off the ground. "We are so excited, elated about what is about to transpire here in the Town of Lane," said Fulton to the crowd. "It's been about two years but it has all come to this day."

Top Video Headlines

of 3



Michaele Duke

	<p>Melissa Ethridge Burgess Agency Nationwide Insurance</p>	<p>505 N. Longstreet St. • Kingstree SC 843-355-6673</p>	
--	--	--	--