

EcoTrack 11: Lake Erie Energy committed to being green

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By Chris Vickers - [email](#) | [bio](#)

Posted by Kate Oatis - [email](#)

TOLEDO, OHIO (WTOL) - Lake Erie Energy understands the demand for renewable energy and is counting on wind and solar to be a big part of future energy needs.

The company developed a renewable energy division whose sole purpose is to produce green energy.



"We decided we were going to focus on wind and solar power systems, being that they are electrical in nature so it kind of fit our electrical contracting business plan," said Renewable Energy Solutions Manager Tom Whitby. "My phone is ringing off the hook, so it seems like everybody wants to know about it, everyone is excited about it."

With tax credits and grants, the financial benefits for customers can be seen in just a few years, but, "The payoff environmentally is immediate. As soon as you start producing power from renewable energy you're cutting down on pollutants from other ways of producing power."

A solar array recently installed outside Lake Erie Electric in Bowling Green shows leadership by example, producing renewable energy and tracking the results daily online.

"It gives us as the installer the ability to monitor the system and make sure everything is operating the way it should be," Whitby said. "It gives the customer or owner of the system the ability to take a look and understand and believe that what we say it is going to produce it really is doing it."

The information displayed shows the energy generated and the reduction to emissions.

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