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News Release

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Seven Chester County Projects To Receive Funding From PECO Green Region Program *Environmentally focused projects to receive \$150,000 in grant funding*

PHILADELPHIA, (May 26, 2010) – PECO has chosen seven Chester County municipalities to receive \$30,000 in grant funding. This is part of \$150,000 in grant funding as part of 2010 PECO Green Region, the company's municipal open space grant program.

PECO Green Region provides grants for projects focusing on open space preservation, improvements to parks and recreation resources, and conservation. Since 2004, PECO has provided nearly \$800,000 toward qualifying projects.

Grants provided this year will support an array of green projects including the development of recreation trails, the purchase of open space, planting of trees and other vegetation, and park planning

In partnership with Natural Lands Trust, the region's largest land conservation organization, PECO will award grants to the following municipalities in Chester County:

- **East Bradford Township (\$5,000)** - The grant will fund construction of a 0.75-mile, paved multi-use trail from Harmony Hill Road/Shadyside Road to PA Route 322. This trail segment is part of a larger corridor that extends another 1.5 miles north into West Bradford Township, as well as part of the greater Brandywine-Struble Regional Recreation Corridor.
- **East Pikeland Township (\$5,000)** - The Township will use the grant for a consultant to update the 1999 French Creek Park and Trail Master Site Plan. The consultant will evaluate existing natural features, landowner issues, and area context to create a plan for trail alignment and design considerations.
- **Valley Township (\$5,000)** - The Township will use the grant to update their 1993 Open Space, Recreation, and Environmental Resources Plan to better reflect their changing conditions and plan for future recreation, parkland, and greenways, while taking into consideration the region's needs.
- **Oxford Borough (\$5,000)** - The grant will be used to create a trail on a portion of the Authority's regional park site. The route of the 1,910-foot trail is intended to foster resource conservation benefits by giving trail users more direct access to sensitive natural areas and enhancing awareness of the need for their ongoing protection.

(more)

- **London Grove Township (\$5,000)** - The grant will be used to develop educational and wayfinding signage in Goddard Park, the Township's first community park.
- **Pennsbury Township (\$2,500)** - The Township will use the grant at the Johnson Woods Preserve to fund removing exotic invasive vegetation and acquiring and then installing new native tree plantings to "jump start" succession to fill in the canopy and edges as quickly as possible.
- **West Pikeland (\$2,500)** - The grant will be used to construct 3,200 feet of natural trail through the Hopkins Estate conservation easement area.

Municipalities can apply for a Green Region grant of up to \$10,000 per project each year. A committee with representatives from PECO, its parent Exelon, county agencies and conservation organizations reviews each application and selects the projects to receive funding.

"We are committed to reducing our carbon footprint and greening our operations at PECO," said Denis O'Brien, PECO president and CEO. "We want to work together, with our customers and community partners, to have an even greater environmental impact through grants and educational programs."

"Open space preservation and access to outdoor recreation are essential to the livability and prosperity of our communities," said Molly Morrison, president of Natural Land Trust. "That is why Natural Lands Trust has been so honored to be a partner in PECO's Green Region program. It is a wonderfully effective way to help our region's municipalities invest in their own future."

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Based in Philadelphia, PECO is an electric and natural gas utility subsidiary of Exelon Corporation (NYSE: EXC). PECO serves 1.6 million electric and 486,000 natural gas customers in southeastern Pennsylvania and employs about 2,400 people in the region. PECO delivered 83.7 billion cubic feet of natural gas and 39.4 billion kilowatt-hours (kwh) of electricity in 2009. Founded in 1881, PECO is one of the Greater Philadelphia Region's most active corporate citizens, providing leadership, volunteer and financial support to numerous arts and culture, education, environmental, economic development and community programs and organizations.

Natural Lands Trust is the region's largest land conservation organization, preserving thousands of acres of open space each year throughout eastern Pennsylvania and southern New Jersey. The organization owns and manages 41 nature preserves totaling more than 20,000 acres and has helped hundreds of private landowners and area communities fulfill their conservation goals. Information about Natural Lands Trust and nature preserves that are open to the public is available online at www.natlands.org or by calling 610-353-5587.

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