



A Road Map for Developing Your Community Energy Co-op (CEC) as part of the Co-op Power Network of community energy cooperatives

	Stage One: Responding	Stage Two: Mobilizing	Stage Three: Power- Building	Stage Four: Mission-Driving
Building and Organizing Community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Find out what energy, sustainability and justice issues people care about in your community Connect with community leaders and organizations who represent different classes and races in your community and recruit a diverse leadership team for your CEC Hold educational and social events to learn more about those issues with an increasing number of people each time Speak and table at local events Recruit and orient new members Achieve your 20-Member milestone 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hold outreach and education events that help achieve the Members' goals and build a strong multi-race and multi-class leadership team for your CEC Interview new members to learn more about their skills, experience, interests and energy needs and to build a relationship with them Develop a vision for supporting the transition to a more sustainable and just energy future Work with members and supporters to identify the most critical community energy transitions needed for a more sustainable and just energy future Plug into the Co-op Power database, accounting and communications resources Participate in the regional Sustainability Summit and Co-op Power Leader Retreats 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strengthen your multi-race and multi-class membership base, providing ongoing training and education to meet Member and CEC development needs Achieve your 50-Member milestone. Begin to research opportunities for community-scale initiatives and business development opportunities Create and implement a community development plan focused on achieving strategic goals set by members Support the development of Green Jobs and Green Businesses producing products and services of priority to members Create a network of Member Lenders interested in investing in local energy projects Play a leadership role in the regional Sustainability Summit and Co-op Power Leader Retreats 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Be a multi-class, multi-race movement to mobilize and educate large numbers of people, organizations, businesses and municipalities to take action to create a more just and sustainable future in your community Create and implement a dynamic community development plan that drives your restorative justice and sustainability agenda Work with other CEC's to create and implement a regional community development plan Play a leadership role in the regional Sustainability Summit and Co-op Power Leader Retreats
Energy Products and Services, Green Job and Green Business Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gather people together and commit to helping each other with a common goal, such as a) making energy efficiency available to all races and classes; b) reducing their energy bills; c) transitioning to renewable; d) helping people in their community with limited resources stay warm; and/or d) creating community owned energy resources Identify sustainable energy needs and resources in community 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consult with members to learn more about their goals for Co-op Power in your community Develop buying groups and sign up your Members with your local suppliers Offer Products and Services developed by other CEC's to your Members Document that Members are realizing significant savings on their energy purchases 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bring in sufficient revenue to hire a staff person to coordinate your efforts, provide customer service and link with other CEC's; reimburse the Hatfield Office for services; and pay a share of Co-op Power's overhead expenses Recruit Members to participate in your future CEC loan programs Research possible projects 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pursue multiple, ongoing initiatives with a high functioning, diverse, collaborative CEC Team Offer high quality, affordable energy-related products and services to all in your community Raise community capital, launch green businesses and install community-scale renewable energy Hold dynamic green job training and career development programs Generate profits to build more locally-owned green energy, green jobs and green businesses
Democratic Ownership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recruit a diverse leadership team of about 3-9 founding members for your first Steering Committee Hold open, inclusive, democratic meetings that make decisions by consent Gather anecdotal information about what Members want from Co-op Power Give new Members an orientation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hold open, inclusive, democratic CEC Steering committee and Member meetings that make decisions by consent, encouraging Member participation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Host a dynamic Member Education and Participation Training program Link effectively with members and build consensus on key issues Demonstrate ability to make frame and make consent decisions among Steering Committee members and in CEC Membership meetings. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hold open, inclusive, democratic Member and Steering Committee and CEC Member meetings that make decisions by consent, encouraging Member participation Members use the Council/Board/Member Meeting decision making process to get things done
Policy Advocacy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Learn about elected positions and policy initiatives affecting your community 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participate in campaigns and policy initiatives with community partners 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coordinate campaigns and policy initiatives with community partners 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Drive elections and a local policy agenda in collaboration with community partners

