

SMUD News Release

Sacramento Municipal Utility District

• News Media Services

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For immediate release

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SMUD hosts Youth Energy Summit

Nearly a hundred students attended regional 2-day event to learn about clean energy

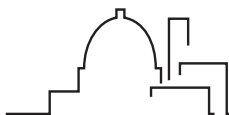
The Sacramento Municipal Utility District (SMUD) is investing in the energy future of the region. The electric utility hosted the Youth Energy Summit (YES) training event January 23 and 24. YES drew more than 85 high school juniors and seniors to learn about a wide range of energy issues. YES is a valuable opportunity to educate young people, who will be energy users and customers someday, about SMUD's overall strategy to reduce the region's overall energy use and create a more sustainable energy future.

The event, sponsored by SMUD, Roseville Electric, Lodi Electric and the California Energy Commission and coordinated by the LegiSchool Project of Sacramento State, was conducted at the SMUD Customer Service Center. The students, representing each of the utility districts, had previously submitted essays on the topic: "How Big is my Carbon Footprint" and then earned a spot to take part in the Youth Energy Summit, and Leadership in Action training event.

The students, all from local participating high schools, left the event with the tools to become civic-minded energy advocates. The summit featured highly regarded experts in energy fields including keynote speaker Chelsea Sexton, noted activist from the documentary "Who Killed the Electric Car?" and Ian Wright, CEO of high performance electric car manufacturer Wrightspeed and formerly of Tesla Motors, which also produces electric sports cars.

Students also attended educational sessions given by field experts to learn the basics of energy science; trends in renewable energy like solar and wind; new technology and efficiency; challenges and innovations in energy generation and transmission; "global warming"; new "green collar" careers; and what is known as "energy civics," or energy-related legislation and policies. The students will use their newly acquired knowledge to complete energy-related service learning projects in their school or community.

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2-2-2-2 SMUD hosts Youth Energy Summit

Once the students have completed their service learning projects, they will document their experiences with displays at the state Capitol on Earth Day in April. Students will also discuss their work as well as share their experiences with legislators and the general public. Additionally, teams will make short presentations before a panel of judges from the California Energy Commission. The top five teams will be awarded scholarships, and all participating teachers who serve as mentors to the student teams will receive a stipend. The amount of scholarships and stipends will be based on the funds raised from the utilities and external sources.

See what SMUD customers and others are saying about the move toward a more sustainable energy future and for more information about SMUD and its green programs, visit smud.org and ourgreencommunity.org.

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A print-quality file of the image below is available on request.



Suggested caption: SMUD electric transportation expert Dan Gehringer tells students about the features of a plug-in hybrid electric vehicle during the Youth Energy Summit held on the SMUD campus. Nearly a hundred high school seniors attended the two-day event to learn about renewable and alternative forms of energy that could provide a more sustainable energy future.

