



## Media Release

**Contact:**

Sandy Manners, Director of Corporate Communications

**Guelph Hydro Inc.**

Tel: 519.837.4703 Cell: 226.218.0157

Email: [smanners@guelphhydro.com](mailto:smanners@guelphhydro.com)

Website: [www.guelphhydroinc.com](http://www.guelphhydroinc.com)

## Guelph Hydro Participating in Transatlantic Urban Climate Dialogue

*Community Energy Planning a Focus of International Study*

**(GUELPH, ON) November 4, 2011** – Guelph Hydro Inc. participated recently as a member of a delegation from the City of Guelph attending the **Transatlantic Urban Climate Dialogue** organized by the Environmental Public Policy Research Centre at the Freie Universitat Berlin, Germany.

The Transatlantic Urban Climate Dialogue is bringing together North American and German policy makers, technical experts, business leaders, and academics to share perspectives about challenges associated with developing and implementing energy conservation initiatives and using community energy projects to transform urban settings.

Over the course of the two-year dialogue, there will be four workshops: two in Germany in the Ruhr region and Stuttgart; one in Northern Virginia; and one in the spring of 2013 in Guelph.

The first workshop entitled, ***“Urban development in the Ruhr Region (Germany) and Integrated Local Energy Planning”*** took place from October 17-19. The meeting showcased community energy projects that have been used to revitalize and transform industrial regions of the Ruhr. Site visits included:

- Innovation City Bottrop, a city of 67,000 inhabitants that has initiated a 10-year project to become a low-energy use area
- Energiepark Mont-Cenis, an example of integrated urban planning that has revitalized the site of a former coal mine. This site features a hotel, conference centre, public library and community meeting spaces, and uses a rooftop solar renewable energy facility as well as a methane-fuelled district energy system that provides electricity and thermal energy to the surrounding community.
- Wissenschaftsprk Gelsensirchen Science Park and student EnergyLab

Discussions centred on community energy policy, planning and implementation, as well as energy-efficient building refurbishment programs and practices. A key focus of this workshop was the revitalization and transformation of brownfield sites to create highly energy efficient neighbourhoods and commercial areas.

For more information, visit: [www.fu-berlin.de/tucd](http://www.fu-berlin.de/tucd) or email [sustainability@guelphhydro.com](mailto:sustainability@guelphhydro.com)

**About Guelph Hydro Inc.**

Guelph Hydro Inc. is actively developing sustainable energy projects as a key implementer of the City of Guelph's Community Energy Initiative.

Guelph Hydro Inc. is the holding company for Guelph Hydro Electric Systems Inc., the local electricity distribution company serving 50,000 customers in Guelph and Rockwood, Ontario, and for Ecotricity Guelph In., an alternative energy company, also located in Guelph.

For more information, visit: [www.guelphhydroinc.com](http://www.guelphhydroinc.com)