

Newsletter
SPRING 2012

Green Pro Bono

Free Legal Help for Climate Change and Environmental Innovators

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Greetings for 2012!

Green Pro Bono had an exciting and successful 2011! We want to thank all of our volunteers for helping us grow as well as the many law firms that have agreed to provide pro bono services to the wide variety of cutting edge green non-profits and social enterprises. We are hoping to continue to expand in 2012 with a goal of supporting an even wider network of green *changemakers* this year!

In this SPRING newsletter we feature Green Pro Bono client Egg-energy, discuss our work with Harvard Business School, and announce upcoming events for 2012!

Don't forget to look for important updates on our website www.greenprobono.org or follow us on **Facebook** (www.facebook.com/GreenProBono) and **Twitter** (@GreenProBono)!

Feature Story

Client Spotlight: EGG-energy Lights Up Tanzania with Green Pro Bono's Help

While 80% of households in Tanzania live within electric power grid access, only some 10% get their electricity directly from the grid. **EGG-energy**, founded in 2009 by a group of engineers and business students from Harvard and MIT, has come up with a simple, clean and affordable solution to bring electricity to more households and small enterprises in the developing world.

The company uses solar panels or grid supplied electricity to charge portable, rechargeable batteries. Each battery is about the size of a brick and lasts approximately five nights in a typical household where residents use 1 to 3 lights and charge a mobile phone. The depleted batteries are exchanged for fully charged units at EGG-energy charging stations nearby. For customers who live more than 5km from a charging station, the company has established satellite distribution centers at existing businesses where batteries are delivered on a regular basis. Customers can purchase a subscription for the service or by pay a small fee for each swap.

Rechargeable batteries are catching on, overtaking more expensive, polluting alternatives like kerosene and disposable batteries. Customers are achieving significant savings in energy costs while helping to reduce carbon emissions. Egg-energy also sells lights, radios and phone chargers, and employs trained technicians to safely install household electrical systems.

(article continues on page 2)

Client Spotlight: EGG-energy

(continued from page 1)

[EGG-energy] was “grateful for the timely and extremely valuable legal advice on all corporate matters faced by a multinational start-up.”

The CFO of EGG-energy, Jukka Valimaki, reached out to Nancy Reiner, Green Pro Bono’s co-founder. “It was a good fit for our model” said Nancy. So, Green Pro Bono matched the start-up company with a corporate partner at Goodwin Procter. We caught up recently with Jukka for his thoughts on his GPB experience. Jukka was excited about the company’s future and “grateful for the timely and extremely valuable legal advice on all corporate matters faced by a multinational start-up.”

EGG-energy has shown modest growth in a short period of time. From opening its first pilot station in November of 2009, the company now has four charging stations, three on-grid based and one solar. The company employs 14 full time Tanzanians, two Americans, and supports two expatriate fellows. EGG is currently involved in several exciting initiatives. These include partnerships with local industries and microfinance institutions in Dar es Salaam to provide factory workers, many of whom lack electricity in their homes, with convenient swapping stations near their workplace.

Over the next three years, EGG-energy will grow its business by creating solar franchises in several areas of Tanzania. These solar charging stations, owned by a local business person and powered by clean energy, will allow EGG to bring affordable electricity to communities far from the existing electrical grid. In the following years, EGG-energy plans to expand rapidly throughout Tanzania as an independent power distributor. The company’s long-term vision is to eventually provide power throughout the developing world.

To learn more about EGG-energy, visit their website at <http://egg-energy.com/>. To inquire about working with Green Pro Bono to find free legal help for your social enterprise or nonprofit, visit www.greenprobono.org.

“Green Pro Bono was an exciting and attractive choice for us because it is an innovative startup, working with other innovative startups that develop clean energy solutions.”

Green Pro Bono Partners with Harvard Business School’s MBA Students

Harvard Business School offers a Board Fellow Program for talented MBA students committed to nonprofit leadership development. Green Pro Bono is excited to be participating in this program. We were honored to have been selected by four experienced professionals studying for their MBA who wanted to support our mission.

The students are reviewing the operating procedures and strategic decision-making of Green Pro Bono to help us better define and perform services for the community at large, as well as preparing us for our desired growth. The Harvard MBA students’ participation has already paid dividends with the formalization of several key operating procedures.

Speaking on behalf of the team members who chose GPB, Mabel Feng said, “Green Pro Bono was an exciting and attractive choice for us because it is an innovative startup, working with other innovative startups that develop clean energy solutions. Some of us are considering careers in renewable energy so it was a perfect match for us”. The team will be ready to present their recommendations to GPB leadership in April.

“We thank Mabel Feng, Wayne Hu, Virag Khara, and Alexey Sosnovskiy, for all their hard work, and we thank Harvard University for allowing Green Pro Bono to be part of this wonderful program”, said Nancy Reiner, co-founder of Green Pro Bono.

Other News

**Want to help support
the Green Pro Bono
cause?**

Please consider making
a donation online at
[www.greenprobono.org/
donate.cfm](http://www.greenprobono.org/donate.cfm)

Upcoming events for 2012

Green Pro Bono is planning the first in a series of events to connect those innovators developing new technology and solutions in the Green Technology and Climate Change space for FALL 2012!

This event is open to technologists and community activists, in-house counsel and lawyers from the area's law firm and corporate offices, and other service professionals (including accountants, developers, and designers) looking to be supportive of these new initiatives.

The event will feature a short presentation on key legal aspects of starting your own company or not-for-profit followed by an open Q&A period and time for networking.

This will be a great event for young professionals interested in what's happening in green tech and climate change initiatives to see first hand what their contemporaries are working on.

Stay tuned to the Green Pro Bono website and social media for more information!

Green Pro Bono in the News

Green Pro Bono was recently featured in the 2011 winter edition of the Oregon State Bar's Sustainable Future Section. The article describes GPB's mission, its volunteer profile, and mentions GPB's previous work with Egg Energy (www.egg-energy.com). Nancy Reiner collaborated with Oregon State Bar's editor, Michelle Slater to put together the piece.

The full article is available online at:

www.osbsustainablefuture.org/home/section-newsletter/20114winter2reiner/

Green Pro Bono TV!

Check out GPB's first video featurette created by LexMedia. An easy way to let your friends know about our mission!



(www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=iqPBZkUnZp0)