

# Athens County EDC

**Business Remixed**, The Athens County Economic Development Council, is the champion of business in Southeast Ohio.

We are a public-private partnership committed to increasing economic opportunity in Athens County by encouraging entrepreneurship, recruiting new businesses, and helping existing businesses secure the resources they need to grow and expand.

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# Athens County EDC

***Our Mission: To be a catalyst for quality jobs and progress in Athens County and throughout the region by creating a seamless network of economic development resources through partnerships with government, business and nonprofit organizations.***

# Partner Organizations

- City of Athens
- Athens County
- Ohio University
- Hocking College/Tri-County Adult Career Center
- Community Improvement Corporation of Athens
- Athens County Port Authority

# Know Your Community

- Manufacturing
- Tourism
- Education
- Resort
- Progressive
- Historic

# Targeted Industries



Sustainable  
Energy



Information  
Technology



Specialty and  
Craft Food  
Manufacturing



Healthcare &  
Biotechnology

# Know Your Partners

- Utilities
- Chamber
- Businesses
- Developers
- Media

# Know Your Tools

- CIC
- Port Authority
- Tax Incentives
- Loan Funds
- Enterprise Zone
- Regional Groups



# Community Improvement Corporation

- The CIC of Athens, Ohio is an organization committed to promoting and fostering economic development in Athens County.
- The CIC is interested in providing gap financing assistance to projects that have public value, such as significant job creation.
- This group strives to find innovative ways to implement job retention and creation in Athens County.
- Most recently, the CIC recently became a shareholder of Ecolibrium Solar, a company that the CIC provided funding to in its infancy.

# Some of our clients





Ecolibrium Solar

# Client Success Spotlight: Ecolibrium Solar

- Overview:
  - Began assisting company while they were incubating in the Ohio University Innovation Center
  - Worked with our partner network to provide Technical Assistance & Business Counseling
  - Orchestrated capital investment through Community Improvement Corporation from lending investment through Common Stock purchase
  - Partnered with JobsOhio to help company navigate programs and funding opportunities
  - Provided major site selection efforts for over a year to assure company would locate in Athens permanently

# Client Success Spotlight:

## Ecolibrium Solar

- Successes
  - Company began with one (1) full-time job in 2011, and has grown to **29 FTE Positions** at the end of 2014
  - Company projects **36 FTE Positions** by the end of 2015
  - Company payroll in 2014 was **\$1,363,587.67**
    - Average Salary: \$65,929
    - Average Salary (non exec): \$48,300
  - Company sales in 2014 were **\$18.7 million**, and a significant increase is projected for 2015.

# Port Authority

We are often asked why Athens has a “port authority.”

Keep in mind that:



*A “port” is an entry point for economic opportunity... as such, a Port Authority has unique tools that can enable certain economic opportunities.*

The Athens County Port Authority works to encourage and facilitate economic development projects in Athens County using its unique tools such as acquiring, selling, and leasing property or facilities for commercial use.

The Port Authority holds the power to own land, set fees, and levy taxes - placing it in an excellent position to stimulate growth within the county. This organization also facilitates US EPA grant applications for the county, particularly in relation to Brownfield assessment. In May of 2014, the Port Authority was awarded **\$400,000 in Brownfield Assessment grants** from the US EPA.



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