

Eric Romich

Associate Professor and Extension Field Specialist, Energy Development
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As a statewide Extension Field Specialist for Energy Education, I work closely with faculty and staff from various program areas and departments to conduct research, develop extension programs, and teach in communities throughout the state. My current programs are focused on peak demand management in agriculture, on-farm solar system design and financial analysis, utility scale solar development, solar leasing considerations, and strategies for co-locating utility scale solar and agricultural production. My educational programs are designed to guide informed decision making on energy development, facilitate local conflict resolution, and enhance the overall environmental and economic conditions for Ohioans. I currently serve as the program leader for the OSU Extension Energize Ohio Signature Program and the Past Chair of the National Extension Energy Initiative.

Work History

- 2018 - Present, Associate Professor and Extension Field Specialist, OSU College of Food, Agricultural and Environmental Sciences
- 2012 - 2018, Assistant Professor and Extension Field Specialist, OSU College of Food, Agricultural and Environmental Sciences
- 2008 - 2012, OSU Extension Educator 2, County Operations, The Ohio State University

Education

- 2004 - M.A., Kent State University, Exercise, Leisure, and Sports Administration
- 2002 - B.A., Franklin University, Business Administration & Process Management

Areas of Interest

- Distributed (Behind-the-Meter) Solar Development
- Utility-Scale Solar Energy Development and Solar Leasing
- Peak Demand Energy Management in Agriculture
- Renewable Energy Policy

Selected Professional Awards

- 2020. NACDEP National Award - Educational Materials, Team Winner (Farmland Owner's Guide to Solar Leasing), National Association of Community Development Extension Professionals (NACDEP)
- 2020. Ohio State's 2020 Community Engaged Program Award, Ohio State University Office of Outreach and Engagement
- 2019. Community Development Mid-Career Service Award, Epsilon Sigma Phi - Alpha Eta Chapter
- 2018. National Association of Community Development Extension Professionals Creativity and Innovation Team Award. 1st Place State and Regional (National runner up), National Association of Community Development Extension Professionals
- 2017. NACDEP Distinguished Career Award (Honorable Mention), National Association of Community Development Extension Professionals (NACDEP), National Association of Community Development Extension Professionals.
- 2016. Raymond A. Schindler Excellence in Community Development Extension Award, OSU Extension Community Development, Ohio State University Extension.

Selected Bulletins, Technical Reports, and Fact Sheets

- **Romich, E., and** Zoller, C. (2020). Peak Demand Energy in Agriculture (Report No. SDEM-122020). [Technical Report] Columbus: Ohio State University.
- Hall, P., Bacheleor, E., and **Romich, E.** (2019). Farmland Owner's Guide to Solar Leasing. [Technical Report] Columbus: Ohio State University.
- **Romich, E.,** Zoller, C., Illindila, M., and Cull, R. (2019). Farm Energy Management Technical Report: Peak Demand Energy Charges in Agriculture, Understanding Electric Demand Charges (Report No. FEM-19-01). [Technical Report] Columbus: Ohio State University.
- Bowen-Ellzey, N., and **Romich, E.** (2017). Economic Impact Analysis of the Ohio Ethanol Industry [Technical Report] (Report No. TR-17-03). Columbus: Ohio State University.
- **Romich, E.,** Civittolo, D., Bowen, N., and Ward, B. (2017). Critical Infrastructure: Evaluating Lessons Learned for Natural Gas Utilization in Agriculture. [Technical Report] Columbus: Ohio State University.
- **Romich, E.,** Civittolo, D., Bowen, N., and Ward, B. (2017). Energy Overview: Evaluating Propane and Natural Gas Trends. [Technical Report] Columbus: Ohio State University.
- Sanders, D., Denney, K., Horton, R., Schlingman, W., Bowen-Ellzey, N., Cull, R., and **Romich, E.,** (2017) Young Engineers in Solar Energy [National 4-H Project Book] Columbus: Ohio State University.
- Bowen, N., **Romich, E.,** Civittolo, D., Moss, M., Bond, C., Bates, J., Bonnell, J., Loy, P., and Lloyd, M., (2016) Final Report: Building Sustainable Communities in Ohio's Shale Region. [Technical Report] Columbus: Ohio State University.
- **Romich, E.,** Chen, Q., Cruse, A., Zhao, L., and Gorzitze, A. (2016) Ohio Residential Energy Survey. [Technical Report] Report No. Technical Report 16-02. Columbus: Ohio State University.
- **Romich, E.,** Geiger, M., and Rashford, B. (2016) Solar Electric Investment Analysis - Estimating System Production. [Bulletin] Report No. B-1291.1. University of Wyoming.
- **Romich, E.,** Geiger, M., and Rashford, B. (2016) Solar Electric Investment Analysis - Assessing System Cost. [Bulletin] Report No. B-1291.2. University of Wyoming.
- **Romich, E.,** Geiger, M., and Rashford, B. (2016) Solar Electric Investment Analysis - Forecasting the Value of Electricity. [Bulletin] Report No. B-1291.3. University of Wyoming.
- **Romich, E.,** Geiger, M., and Rashford, B. (2016) Solar Electric Investment Analysis - Understanding Incentives. [Bulletin] Report No. B-1291.4. University of Wyoming.
- **Romich, E.,** Geiger, M., and Rashford, B. (2016) Solar Electric Investment Analysis - Conducting a Financial Analysis. [Bulletin] Report No. B-1291.5. University of Wyoming.
- **Romich, E.,** Geiger, M., and Rashford, B. (2016) Solar Electric Investment Analysis - PV Solar Example. [Bulletin] Report No. B-1291.6. University of Wyoming.
- Bowen, N., **Romich, E.,** and Civittolo, D., (2016) Shale Energy Development Economic Impact Series: Local Economic Development Strategies for Energy Boomtowns. [Fact Sheet] No. CDFS-SED-5. Columbus: Ohio State University.
- Civittolo, D., Bowen, N., and **Romich, E.,** (2016) Shale Energy Development Economic Impact Series: Contributing Factors to a Boomtown Bust. [Fact Sheet] No. CDFS-SED-3. Columbus: Ohio State University.
- Civittolo, D., **Romich, E.,** and Bowen, N., (2016) Shale Energy Development Economic Impact Series: Developing a Model to Measure Economic Change in an Energy Economy. [Fact Sheet] No. CDFS-SED-4. Columbus: Ohio State University.
- **Romich, E.,** Bowen, N., and Civittolo, D., (2016) Shale Energy Development Economic Impact Series: Ohio Energy Trends. [Fact Sheet] No. CDFS-SED-1. Columbus: Ohio State University.
- **Romich, E.,** Civittolo, D., and Bowen, N., (2016) Shale Energy Development Economic Impact Series: Characteristics of a Boomtown. [Fact Sheet] No. CDFS-SED-2. Columbus: Ohio State University.
- **Romich, E.,** and McGuire, K. (2015) On-Farm Solar Electric System Safety. [Fact Sheet] No. CDFS-4105-15. Columbus: Ohio State University.

Selected Journal Articles

- Zoller, C., and **Romich, E.**, "Not Glamorous, but Needed: Teaching Energy Basics to Improve Farm Profitability". *Journal of Extension*. (In Publication Queue) 2020.
- Chen, Q.; **Romich, E.**; Cruse, A.; Gorzitze, A.; Shi, H.; Zhao, L. "Surveying the edges: Homeowners' perspectives on residential energy efficiency and renewable energy improvements in Ohio". *Journal of Green Building*, 14 (1), 111-130. 2019.
- Bowen, N., and **Romich, E.**, "Energize Job Retention: Energy Management Strategies as a Component of Business Retention and Expansion Programs". *Community Development Society*. Vol. 48, no. 1: 1-11. 2017.
- **Romich, E.**, "Capitalizing on Multidimensionality in Survey Instruments to Ensure Delivery of Relevant Extension Programming". *Journal of Extension*. Vol. 55, no. 1: 1RIB1. 2017.
- **Romich, E.**, "The Role of Extension in Energy Education". *Journal of Extension*. Vol. 53, no. 2: 2COM1. 2015.
- Campbell, J., and **Romich, E.**, "Residents' Perceptions toward Utility Scale Wind Farm Development". *Journal of Extension*. Vol. 53, no. 6: 6RIB2. 2015.
- **Romich, E.**, and Campbell, J, "Partnering with Private Industry - Ground Rules for Working Together". *Journal of Extension*. Vol. 53, no. 4: 4IAW2. 2015.
- **Romich, E.**, Bowen, N., Moss, M., Bond, C., and Civittolo, D., "Building Sustainability in Gas and Oil Producing Communities". *Journal of Extension*. Vol. 53, no. 3: 3IAW1. 2015.
- **Romich, E.**, and Bowen, N., "Growing Community Capacity in Energy Development through Extension Education". *Journal of Extension*. Vol. 51, no. 3: 3IAW6. 2013.
- Bowen, N., Davis, G., **Romich, E.**, and Lloyd, E., "Extension-Led Economic Development Model—A Recipe for Success". *Journal of Extension*. Vol. 51, no. 2: 2FEA5. 2013.
- Bowen, N., **Romich, E.**, Civittolo, D., and Davis, G., "Change Is Inevitable: How Field Specialist Positions Can Help Meet the Challenge". *Journal of Extension*. Vol. 51, no. 3: 3COM1. 2013.

Selected Service Activities

2020 - Present	Active Member, Farm Energy Community of Practice. (eXtension). 2020 - Present) Co-Leader, Solar Energy in Agriculture Program.
2020 - Present	Promotion and Tenure Committee, Ohio State University, Department of Extension, Columbus, United States
2019 - Present	Center for Energy Research, Training and Innovation Advisory Committee, Active Representative. Ohio State University, Columbus, OH, United States
2019 - Present	Studio 149 Research Video Peer Review Squad, Reviewer, Ohio State University, Department of Extension, Columbus, United States.
2016	Government, State Energy Extension Partnership (SEEP), USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture, Washington D.C., District of Columbia, United States.
2016 - Present	Active Member. Association of Natural Resources Extension Professionals (ANREP). (2016 - Present) Past Chair, ANREP National Extension Energy Initiative.
2012 - Present	Active Member. National Association of Community Development Extension Professionals. (2012 - Present) NACDEP Finance Committee Member, (2016) Track Reviewer for 2016 annual conference, (2010) Track Review Committee Member for 2010 annual conference.
2011 - Present	Swank Program in Rural-Urban Policy Advisory Committee, Active Representative. Notes: Represent OSU Extension as a member of the Swank Program in Rural-Urban Policy Advisory Committee.

Selected Presentations

- **Romich, E.** (2020). *Utility-Scale Solar Energy Production: Preparing Extension to Meet the Challenge*. Presented at: National Association of Community Development Extension Professionals Annual Conference. Portsmouth, NH, United States.
- **Romich, E.** (2019). *Assessing Potential Peak Energy Demand Management Strategies In Agriculture*. Presented at: National Sustainability Summit & National Extension Energy Summit. Lecture conducted from Tampa, FL, United States.
- **Romich, E., Hay, J., Gould, C.** (2019). *Multistate Extension Energy Programming, Making it Work!*. Presented at: National Sustainability Summit & National Extension Energy Summit. Tampa, FL, United States.
- **Romich, E.** (2019). *Assessing Potential Peak Energy Demand Management Strategies In Agriculture*. Presented at: National Association of Community Development Extension Professionals Annual Conference. Asheville, NC, United States.
- **Romich, E., Zoller, C., Barnes, T., Lewandowski, R., Illindila, M.** (2019). *Assessing Potential Peak Energy Demand Management Strategies In Agriculture*. Presented at: OSU Extension Annual Conference. Columbus, OH, United States.
- **Romich, E., Illindila, M., Zoller, C., Barnes, T., Lewandowski, R.** (2019). *Assessing Potential Peak Energy Demand Management Strategies In Agriculture*. OSU Community Engagement Conference. Lecture conducted from Columbus, OH, United States.
- **Romich, E.** (2018). *The State of Research, Education and Outreach in US Shale Oil and Gas Regions: Existing Resources and Future Opportunities*. Presented at: National Association of Community Development Extension Professionals Annual Conference. Cleveland, OH, United States.
- Bowen, N., **Romich, E.**, and Civittolo, D. (2017). *Energize Job Retention: Energy Management Strategies as a Component of Business Retention and Expansion Programs*. Presented at: National Association of Community Development Extension Professionals Annual Conference. Big Sky, MT, United States.
- **Romich, E.**, Civittolo, D., and Bowen, N. (2017). *Maximizing the Gains of Old and New Energy Development for America's Rural Communities*. Presented at: National Association of Community Development Extension Professionals Annual Conference. Big Sky, MT, United States.
- Hay, J., and **Romich, E.** (2017). *Solar Economics and Working Smarter with Creative Commons*. Presented at: 2017 National Extension Energy Summit. Knoxville, TN, United States.
- **Romich, E.** (2016). *Small Scale Renewable Energy Projects - Lessons From the Field*. Presented at: Ohio's Electric Cooperative Trustee Conference. Dublin, OH, United States.
- Apel, M., Jones, C., and **Romich, E.** (2016). *Bridging the Initiatives – Energy, Climate Science and Sustainability*. Presented at: National Association of Community Development Extension Professionals Annual Conference. Burlington, VT, United States.
- **Romich, E.** (2016). *Solar Energy in Agriculture: Considerations for Investing in Photovoltaic Solar Systems*. Presented at: North American Manure Expo. Wooster, OH, United States.
- Bowen, N., Civittolo, D., and **Romich, E.** (2016). *Oil and Gas Boomtowns – Evaluating Economic Change*. Presented at: National Association of Community Development Extension Professionals Annual Conference. Burlington, VT, United States.
- Moss, M., **Romich, E.**, and Bowen, N. (2015). *Building Capacity to Prepare for Shale Development: A Sustainable Community Planning and Engagement Model*. Presented at National Association of Community Development Extension Professionals Annual Conference. Little Rock, AR, United States.
- **Romich, E.** (2015). *Discussion Panel: Extension Energy Programs*. Presented at: 2015 National Extension Energy Summit. Seattle, WA, United States.
- **Romich, E.** (2015). "Renewable Energy Development – Aiding Public Officials in the Decision Making Process." Presented at: 2015 National Extension Energy Summit. Seattle, WA, United States.
- **Romich, E.**, Moss, M., Bowen, N., and Bond C. (2015). *Creating Sustainable Community Energy Plans Through Citizen Engagement*. Presented at: 2015 National Extension Energy Summit. Seattle, WA, United States.
- **Romich, E.**, and Civittolo, D. (2015). *Energy as an Economic Development Strategy*. Presented at: County Commissioners Association Of Ohio Economic Development Symposium. Columbus, OH, United States.
- **Romich, E.**, and Moon, G. (2014). *Utility Scale Renewable Energy Development – Aiding Public Officials in the Decision Making Process*. Presented at: National Association of Community Development Extension Professionals Annual Conference. Grand Rapids, MI, United States.
- Bowen, N., and **Romich, E.** (2014). *Eyes on the Horizon: Capturing the Economic Impacts of Distributed Solar*. Presented at: International Economic Development Council Annual Conference. Fort Worth, TX, United States.

Research Funding

Year	Title	Sponsor	Role	Amount
07/2020 - Present	Validating Energy Conservation of Advanced Livestock Ventilation Systems with Real-Time Energy Data	U.S. Department of Agriculture	Co-PI	\$800,469
05/2019 - Present	Critical Infrastructure: Understanding the Impact of Demand Charges and Power Factor in Agriculture	Ohio Soybean Council	PI	\$59,274
10/2018 - Present	Solar Electric Investment Analysis for Small Farms	U.S. Department of Agriculture	PI	\$74,364
05/2017 - Present	Assessment of Potential Energy Demand Management Strategies in Agriculture.	OSU Office of Outreach and Engagement	PI	\$94,500
08/2019 - 7/2020	Critical Infrastructure: Solar Energy in Agriculture	Ohio Soybean Council	PI	\$14,446
07/2015 - 06/2017	Establishing a Green Home Technology Center: An OSU and Community Partnership for Research, Education, and Demonstration of Green Building Technologies to Support Healthy, Energy Efficient, and Sustainable Housing in Ohio	OSU Engagement Impact Grant	Co-PI	\$45,000
07/2015 - 06/2016	Making the Future Bright: The Solar Energy Curriculum Consortium	OSU Cares Grant	Co-PI	\$24,819
01/2014 - 09/2016	Building Sustainable Communities in Ohio's Shale Region: Leveraging Manufacturing Clusters and Local Assets with Strategic Planning	U.S. Department of Commerce	Co-PI	\$199,766
03/2014 - 10/2018	Maximizing the Gains of Old and New Energy Development for America's Rural Communities	U.S. Department of Agriculture	Co-PI	\$499,980