

**GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS REDUCTION FUND
Quarterly Progress Report Form**

The first quarter grant report is due November 2, 2009.

1. Program Title *(as displayed in your proposal)*

Original: Tracking Progress: Analyzing Greenhouse Gas Emission Reductions and Economic Impact of GHGERF Projects

Revised: Carbon Solutions New England

2. Program Type *(as listed in your proposal)*

10. Education, outreach and information programs that promote energy efficiency, conservation, and demand response;

3. Summary of work completed during this reporting period **July 15, 2009 – September 30, 2009**

A. Provide a summary of activities relevant to this grant.

Task	Status	Comments
Meet with NHPUC staff to discuss objectives and methods of proposed CSNE analysis and dissemination	100%	Meetings held on 7/27/2009, 10/7/2009
Collect information on existing EM&V protocols (e.g., NH CORE Program and NEEP) to guide development of GHGERF protocols.	100%	Conducted background research on different protocols and have constructed a basic data format for data storage
Create a non-public database of funded GHGERF projects	100%	Secure Oracle database created in UNH Research environment
Evaluate projected energy savings, greenhouse gas emission reductions, costs/benefits	100%	Methodology and calculations for all 30 projects evaluated and "standardized" to common metrics
Input details of GHGERF funded projects including projected energy savings, greenhouse gas emission reductions, costs/benefits and other key project metrics listed in funded proposals	100%	All 30 projects with key metrics from proposals stored in database.
Acquire and adapt economic modeling software for assessing job and economic impacts of projects	100%	Implan 2.0 (2007) was acquired and training obtained for using the modeling software. NH State and County models were built and tested for sample energy efficiency projects to model job and broader economic impacts
Submit a summary report to the NHPUC	100%	1 page document and excel spreadsheet of 30 funded projects provided to NHPUC
Develop project web site for internal (i.e., PUC, EESE Board) and external use.	25%	Web development environment created with connection to test database. Development of on-line data submission form using PERL technology in-progress

Collect by an interview process with grant recipients data on past energy use at project site (at least one year; preferably three years) for funded projects and input into the database	40%	Met in-person with 6 grant recipients through Sept 30. Contact initiated with all grant recipients by phone or email.
Develop additional protocols/procedures (e.g., data request protocol; privacy [confidentiality] policy for project-specific data).	25%	Summary documentation collected, access to data has been an issue with some recipients while CSNE learns the most appropriate way to collect the data and refines its data requests approach. Each grant recipient is being handled on a case by case basis

B. Discuss any benefit your activities may have had for low income residents.

This program is a supporting mechanism and is supportive of activities benefiting low income residents to the extent that grant recipients engage in these activities.

C. Note any problems or delays.

To date, the project has not encountered any insurmountable challenges, but we are working through some specific issues. The two main issues encountered are: (1) evaluating some of the grant projects where standardized metrics do not apply, and (2) access to data for some of the grant projects. The significant range in available energy use data is creating some challenges in deciding what types of data should be collected for the different programs (specifically supporting mechanism programs). These projects are currently being handled on a case by case basis as information becomes available. Our goal is to learn from these projects to determine the best methods for assessing the extent to which supporting mechanism programs are meeting their stated objectives.

Access to data is specifically problematic when the following set of conditions exists: (1) the grant recipient is not the direct recipient of the actual energy efficiency measure, but instead the grant recipient is influencing a third party, (2) the grant recipient is interacting with large numbers of third parties, and (3) there is a low level of interaction and relatively anonymous relationship between the grant recipient and the energy efficiency recipient. The NH utility programs and the New England Carbon Challenge are two examples of this type of grant recipient. It is important to accurately capture the impacts of these programs, but is complicated by the diffuse and limited relationship between the grant recipient and energy efficiency recipients.

While these are challenges to be addressed, they were to an extent anticipated and working on the systems and processes to integrate a diverse group of grant recipients into a measurement and evaluation framework is the work that Carbon Solutions New England expected would be within its scope of work.

D. Note any deviation from the work-plan.

Carbon Solutions New England has accomplished the tasks expected during the first three months of the programs existence. However, it has taken longer than expected to develop all of

the protocols and processes necessary to measure and evaluate the large and diverse number of grant recipients. This period of time has proven to be an excellent learning opportunity to better understand the diverse measurement requirements necessary of the different types of grant recipients and programs. The main adjustment has been to take each project on a case by case basis and evaluate the projects on an individual basis rather than use a standardized collection format.

4. Summarize work to be completed next quarter: **October 1, 2009 – January 31, 2009**

CSNE's main focus during this time period will be on developing the technical infrastructure necessary to provide economies of scale in measuring and evaluating projects. This will serve to reduce the on-going cost of assessment while also reducing the reporting burden on grant recipients. This is to be accomplished primarily through the development of automated web-based data collection systems. This area has been slower than expected during the first reporting period, but has accelerated significantly during the October – December 2009 time period, and will be substantial in form by the first quarter of 2010.

In addition, CSNE has been developing a partnership with an external data collection agency EarthAid for utility data. CSNE will facilitate discussions between the New England Carbon Challenge (NECC) and EarthAid to develop a pilot where NECC will encourage participants to sign up with EarthAid. This will provide some data on the feasibility of collecting data from participants using this type of system.

After some initial meetings with the utilities during the initial quarter, CSNE decided to take a cautious approach in working with the utilities during the October – December 2009 time period. This was to give CSNE time to better articulate its data needs to the utilities—especially given the wide range of utility programs--based on the project learning experience. It is the intention of CSNE to fully engage the utilities during the first quarter of 2010.

CSNE also will continue interviewing grant recipients, be completing initial assessment of project data submitted by grant recipients, and summarize grant recipient quarterly report data. CSNE will also hold a meeting in January 2010 with the NHPUC to update on progress and show case web-based access tools that have been developed.

5. Budget vs. Actual Expenditures (if you have included this with your invoicing, there is no need to repeat this for the quarterly report.)

Using the budget you submitted for the final approved grant proposal, please add a column and provide actual expenditures as well as match dollars for this quarter. (Save this worksheet for future reporting as we will want to see your quarterly expenditures as the project continues.)

This information has been submitted on actual invoices.

6. Explain any obstacles encountered or any milestones not reached.

The primary obstacles encountered are described above in 3.C. They are challenges and are to be expected with a new program. The primary approach during the initial phase of this program has been to interact with grant recipients on an individual basis for project evaluation. Longer term, the intention is to transition the CSNE evaluation process to a low-cost, highly scalable, data collection solution that features significant automation and low-levels of human involvement. This will serve to drive down the long-term cost and administrative burden of tracking the projects while providing the best data and guidance for the NH PUC on the expenditure of RGGI funds. It will also allow CSNE to shift more of its resources to analysis.