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**Gorham Fire Department heats for less while reducing Greenhouse Gas Emissions**

*Gorham, NH – December 22, 2009* –The Gorham Fire Department will be stoking the fire on their new high-efficiency pellet boiler and oil furnace this winter thanks in part to a grant from the State’s Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction Fund (GHGERF). “The old heating system was beyond repair,” stated Gorham Fire Chief Rick Eichler, “This new system will reduce oil consumption by 30 to 50% and with the addition of the pellet boiler the new system is expected to reduce the use of fossil fuel by 90% or more. Based on the going rate of \$2.48 per gallon for fuel oil and \$280.00 per ton for wood pellets, the Fire Department anticipates saving approximately \$572.00 per year.”

In addition to providing reliable heat at less cost, the new heating system will eliminate 64,960 pounds per year of greenhouse gases which contribute to climate change. “We are delighted to see these grant funds, which are intended to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, provide benefit both in savings and in comfort for the Gorham Fire Department,” said Jack Ruderman, Director of the Sustainable Energy Division at the New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission which administers the GHGERF. The GHGERF fund consists of proceeds from the auction of carbon allowances through New Hampshire’s participation in the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI), an effort by 10 Northeastern and Mid-Atlantic states to reduce emissions of greenhouse gases from the electric power sector.

For more information on the Gorham Fire Department’s new heating system contact Fire Chief Rick Eichler at 603-466-2549.

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