

NH's Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction Fund (GHGERF)
Promoting a Green Economy & Energy Independence for New Hampshire

A CASE STUDY

Central New Hampshire Business Expands into Energy Efficiency

For over 20 years, Newell & Crathern Builders, LLC in Loudon has been serving the residential home community in New Hampshire with its expertise in new construction and remodeling. Owner Bill Newell built his first house in 1987 and he has remodeled many houses in the Concord area. He took the Lake Region Community College's (LRCC) Building Analyst course and became a certified Building Performance Institute (BPI) Building Analyst (BA) in early 2010. Following the course, he made a significant investment in new equipment and expanded his company's offerings.

The training and equipment have allowed his company to offer energy auditing and weatherization services to the private sector, as well as to work extensively as a contractor for the Community Action weatherization program and reduce energy costs for residents in New Hampshire. The energy auditor training has allowed Newell & Crathern to offer customers a new way of looking at how a building should be constructed to allow for maximum energy efficiency.

To accommodate the additional work, Newell and Crathern, LLC has expanded and now has a crew of four, several of them building framers who were out of work due to the depressed housing industry. "It's hard work and I am not getting rich from this business, but it is a good feeling to make a difference in people's homes."

As part of its Building Analyst course, the LRCC conducted 13 energy-auditor trainings during late 2009 and throughout 2010. The courses have reached over 170 building professionals from across the state and have expanded the New Hampshire workforce capable of reducing energy costs incurred by New Hampshire residents, businesses and municipalities.

Increasing the number of building and energy professionals trained to perform energy efficiency work helps to ensure NH companies can compete in this rapidly growing industry. This training also ensures that NH consumers are receiving quality work that will achieve maximum energy and cost savings.

Global energy costs continue to rise and New Hampshire continues to import 90 percent of its energy from other states and nations. A workforce trained to perform energy-efficiency work in all sectors is essential to reduce energy costs and support New Hampshire's future economic growth.

LRCC worked with the New Hampshire Division of Economic Development to develop and implement the energy auditor training program with GHGERF funding. Without this grant funding the program would not have been developed. In 2010, LRCC received an additional GHGERF grant of \$235,000. The additional support will allow LRCC to continue to expand their leadership role in statewide training of energy efficiency certified professionals.



Bill Newell preparing to dense-pack walls with blown-in insulation.

"My crew is great, and now they look at buildings completely differently. They now see every piece of framing as a negative in overall thermal performance."

Bill Newell, Owner, Newell & Crathern Builders, LLC

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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GHGERF and New Hampshire's Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative

www.puc.nh.gov/Sustainable%20Energy/GHGERF.htm