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

## A CASE STUDY New North Country Business Specializes in Energy Efficiency

NHNRG is a full-service energy-auditing and building-performance contractor that serves residential, commercial and municipal clients in the North Country. The company was founded by Shad Lawton and Jamie Myers, who were students in an October 2009 Building Performance Institute (BPI), Building Analyst (BA) class developed by the Lakes Region Community College (LRCC) with funding from the GHGERF. As a result of taking the class, held in Littleton, NH, they decided to work together and started their company in Lisbon, NH.

As a company, they have conducted over 140 energy audits and over 80 retrofits since taking the course. Mr. Lawton commented, "I was very interested in learning more about building science after building several Energy Star® homes. I really enjoyed the course and the field-based instruction was very helpful. I had wanted to get certified for a while but the cost and distance to the closest course was prohibitive for me. Then LRCC advertised that they were offering the BPI BA course with the discounted tuition in Littleton – it was a no-brainer."

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 the 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



Shad Lawton, NHNRG, performing combustion testing

this rapidly growing industry. This training also ensures that NH consumers are receiving quality work to 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.

The key components of the audits that we are now doing every day are taught in the Building Analyst course. We had a very busy year in 2010, but there is enough housing stock in the North Country alone, to keep several companies busy for years to come.

Shad Lawton, NHNRG

## FOR MORE INFORMATION

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