

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

Town of Warner, New Hampshire



Warner Town Hall

The Town of Warner, through the efforts of its local Energy Committee, received a 2009 GHGERF grant to perform 13 energy audits on their municipal buildings including their 100 year-old town hall, as well as police, fire, and other municipal operations. The building audits, completed by S.E.E.D.S, an independent energy contractor from Jaffrey, NH, were primarily structural and included blower door tests to measure the tightness of the buildings and infrared camera inspections to detect heat leaks. The audits provided the town with a prioritized inventory of projects, along with potential energy savings.

Based on the town's current oil use of 4,746 gallons (or approximately 657MMBtu's) annually, it would be reasonable to expect that energy conservation measures through

envelope upgrade could reduce the heat load between 35 and 40%. Using the existing heating system and controls, that would indicate a fuel use reduction of 2,850 to 3,100 gallons a year. **At 2010 heating oil prices, the town could save over \$10,000 per year if it completes the recommended energy efficiency measure.**

"This audit has really opened our eyes to the amount of taxpayer money that can be saved through energy improvements," stated Clyde Carson, one of Warner's Selectmen and Energy Committee member. "While we would like to find additional grants to complete the audit recommendations, we will ask the town to fund selected projects over a number of years as part of the town's capital budget, beginning with the 2011 town meeting."

Meanwhile, Warner town employees have implemented a number of the insulation and air sealing recommendations through department maintenance budgets. These relatively inexpensive projects represented some of the low hanging fruit. The town intends to go back and measure the savings after this heating season.

"There are similar opportunities in every town, which together would substantially reduce New Hampshire's reliance on imported fossil fuels," said Carson. "And with every gallon of fossil fuel we don't use, we save money, reduce harmful greenhouse gas emissions, and we strengthen our economy."

***Clyde Carson
Selectman
Town of Warner, NH***

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Town of Warner <http://www.warner.nh.us/>
GHGERF and New Hampshire's Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative
www.puc.nh.gov/Sustainable%20Energy/GHGERF.htm