

# **Vermont Interfaith Power and Light**

## **Katy Gerke Memorial Program**

The Katy Gerke Memorial Program has been established to honor the memory of Dr. Katy Gerke and to help Christian churches in Vermont and in twelve New Hampshire towns in the Upper Connecticut River Valley to improve the energy efficiency of their church buildings. Funds from this program can be used by churches to obtain professional energy audits of their buildings and to undertake projects, e.g. building or equipment improvements that will reduce the energy use and greenhouse gas emissions of their church building. All grants for energy audits, energy efficiency improvement or renewable energy projects require that churches provide matching funds for each grant request.

### **Renewable Energy Project Grant Application**

**Vermont Interfaith Power and Light's Definition of Renewable Energy Projects:** Vermont Interfaith Power and Light's (VTIPL) mission is to raise awareness and to support actions to reduce greenhouse gas emissions among faith communities. The largest contributor to greenhouse gas emissions from faith communities is the burning of fossil fuels for heating and transportation.

To achieve the greatest reduction in greenhouse gas emissions through the KGMP, churches are strongly encouraged to have an energy audit and to implement energy efficiency measures prior to, or as part of, a renewable energy project.

Therefore, consistent with our mission, the review of renewable energy project grant applications will give priority to projects that either include significant fossil fuel reductions, in addition to the renewable energy component; or, are planned after fossil fuel reductions have already been achieved with energy efficiency improvements.

#### **Renewable Energy Grant Application:**

This application is to be used by a Christian faith community in Vermont, or in any of twelve New Hampshire towns in the upper Connecticut River Valley\*. Faith communities applying for a renewable energy project grant must own the property where the renewable energy equipment will be installed, or get the owner's permission. They will also need to provide a minimum of 50% of the renewable energy project cost.

\* New Hampshire towns: Bath, Charleston, Claremont, Cornish, Hanover, Haverhill, Lebanon, Lyme, New London, Oxford, Piermont and Plainfield

To apply for a renewable energy project grant, complete this form and send it, with the contractor's proposal/bid, by email to [INFO@VTIPL.org](mailto:INFO@VTIPL.org), or mail it to Vermont Interfaith Power and Light (VTIPL), PO Box 209, Richmond, VT 05477. For questions, contact VTIPL Coordinator, Betsy Hardy, at 802-434-3397 or e-mail [info@vtipl.org](mailto:info@vtipl.org).

(Please print neatly)

Name of Church \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_ Church Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_ Website \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Person \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Describe the building, property or the building system (mechanical/electrical) to be improved by the project:

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On a separate sheet describe the reasons for requesting a renewable energy project grant. If your church has already significantly reduced its fossil fuel use, please identify the actions taken, the date(s) when they were taken and the amount of fossil fuel use reduced.

Total Cost for Renewable Energy Project: \_\_\_\_\_ Amount of Grant Requested: \_\_\_\_\_

Contractor(s) Selected to Perform the Project: \_\_\_\_\_

Contractor(s) Contact Information: \_\_\_\_\_

Contractors' Qualifications/Experience: \_\_\_\_\_

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Attach a copy of the proposal(s) or bid(s) that describe the renewable energy project.

**Requirements for Renewable Energy Project:** To qualify for a renewable energy project grant this application must include the following:

- Information to show that the contractor(s) selected for the project is a professional(s) with demonstrated qualifications and experience.
- Information to show that the work to be completed in the project will be completed by, or under the supervision of, professional installation contractors who are properly insured and appropriately licensed or certified for the project work identified.
- A quantitative assessment of all of the energy improvements (renewable and efficiency) to be made, to include:
  - Firm costs to make the individual energy improvements identified in the project, based on local labor and material costs.
  - The estimated energy savings of individual energy improvements identified in the project, based on the building's actual energy use and accepted engineering calculations.

Churches that are awarded renewable energy project grants must agree to:

- Give VT IPL the opportunity to inspect the project site before, during and upon project completion.
- Provide VT IPL with all energy use data for a minimum of two (2) years following project completion.

Optional: Applications can also include specifications for the materials and equipment being installed and installation specifications.

**Examples of Renewable Energy Projects** (This is not intended to be an exhaustive list)

- Solar photovoltaic panels to reduce grid-sourced electricity, **in conjunction** with weatherization, insulation and/or heating system upgrades to significantly reduce fossil fuel use.
- Solar photovoltaic panels to power cold-climate heat pumps that displace fossil fuel-fired heating equipment.
- Biofuel-based heating equipment, e.g. wood pellets, wood chips, etc.