

Vermont Interfaith Power & Light

CLIMATE ACTION GRANTS

The Climate Action Grants program has been established to honor the memory of Katy Gerke and Ellie Cressey Webster and to help faith and spiritual communities in Vermont and in twelve New Hampshire towns* improve the energy efficiency of their buildings and reduce their greenhouse gas emissions. Funds from this program can be used by faith and spiritual communities to obtain professional energy audits of their buildings and to undertake projects that will reduce their greenhouse gas emissions. All grants will require that faith and spiritual communities provide matching funds for each grant request.

Renewable Energy Project Grant Application

Vermont Interfaith Power & Light's Definition of Renewable Energy Projects: An important part of VTipl's mission is to raise awareness and support congregations in reducing their greenhouse gas emissions. The burning of fossil fuels for heating and transportation is the largest contributor of greenhouse gas emissions from congregations. Thus, each faith/spiritual community interested in applying for a renewable energy project grant for their building or property is strongly encouraged by VTipl to first have an energy audit of their building(s), and then implement energy efficiency measures to reduce their fossil fuel use before seeking this grant.

Consistent with our mission, the review of renewable energy project grant applications will give priority to projects that either include significant fossil fuel reductions, 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 faith and spiritual communities in Vermont, or in any of twelve New Hampshire towns in the Upper Connecticut River Valley*. 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.

To apply for a renewable energy project grant, complete this form and send it, with a copy of the contractor's proposal/bid, by email to info@vtipl.org or mail it to Vermont Interfaith Power & Light (VTipl), P.O. Box 3095, Burlington, VT 05408 For questions, contact VTipl Coordinator, Donna Roberts, at 802-829-0135 or by email to: info@vtipl.org

(Please print neatly)

Name of Faith or Spiritual
Community _____

Mailing Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____ Phone _____

Email _____ Website _____

Contact Person _____ Phone _____ Email _____

On a separate sheet; Describe the building, property or building system (mechanical/electrical) to be improved by the project; the reasons for requesting a renewable energy project grant; and, if your community 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.

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

Total Cost for Project: _____ Amount of Grant Requested: _____

Contractor(s) Selected to Perform the Project: _____

Contractor(s) Contact Information: _____

Contractor(s) Qualifications/Experience: _____

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 this 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.

Faith and Spiritual communities that are awarded renewable energy project grants must agree to give VTIPL the opportunity to inspect the project site before, during and upon project completion and provide VTIPL 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 powering cold-climate heat pumps.
- Biofuel-based heating equipment, e.g. wood pellets, wood chips, etc.
- Participation in a Community Solar Project.