

GREEN ENERGY COMMITTEE

Sue Klem
Edmund Lang
David O'Neil
Jonathan Soo
Jennifer Haugh
Jim Hutchinson
Mary Day Ex-officio
John Snell, Chair

The Green Energy Committee (GEC) celebrated its tenth anniversary this year. Established by the Selectmen in 2007, GEC serves as the Town's primary resource to identify technologies, initiatives, and resources to reduce Lincoln's consumption of fossil fuels. Our committee members include residents with specific interests and/or professional skills who can support Town staff and advocate for municipal and town-wide fossil fuel reduction opportunities.

In our annual update to the Selectmen, we identified seven recommendations for the Board's consideration. They included:

- Support high efficiency design standards for any potential school building project
- Install solar PV on the Landfill and Public Safety Building
- Bring a vote to Town Meeting in support of the State's greenhouse gas emission targets
- Investigate a 100% renewable municipal aggregation procurement
- Support GEC's residential initiatives
- Install high efficiency heat pump technology for the Library
- Invest in electric hybrid conversion options for DPW and School vehicles

Each of these recommendations is in varying stages of investigation or completion. If fossil fuel reduction was easy, Lincoln would be carbon-free by now.

We have worked on high efficiency design standards for the school building project, solar PV installations at the landfill and Public Safety Building, and a potential heat pump installation at the library. Each of these projects has numerous associated moving pieces that Town staff, GEC and other committees, and technical support resources need to continue to address.

This year our residential initiatives have touched residents who have signed up for energy audits (about 240), or have installed solar PV and/or solar hot water systems (about 20), high efficiency heat pump systems, or wood-fired boilers at bulk pricing and pre-negotiated contract agreements.

We have a community choice electricity program on the Town Warrant designed to allow the entire town to purchase electricity on behalf of all of Lincoln's electricity customers. Customers will be able to opt out of the program if they prefer to stay with Eversource electricity. The generic agreement will be more consumer friendly than most offers that we receive in the mail. It could also provide a higher percentage of renewable energy than the standard offer from Eversource.

We will continue to work on proposals to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and to add high efficiency vehicle retrofits and purchases that will go before future town meetings.