

GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS INVENTORY/COMMUNITY ENERGY STRATEGIC PLAN 2019 ANNUAL REPORT



THE ECOLOGY ACTION CENTER HAS COMPLETED THE FOLLOWING ITEMS IN FULFILLMENT OF THE GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS INVENTORY PROGRAM AGREEMENT OF APRIL 25, 2016.

LEADING INDICATORS: SUMMARY OF PROGRESS

The Ecology Action Center finalized the Stakeholder material for the Community Energy Strategic Plan (CESP) for the Town of Normal and the City of Bloomington. In March 2019, the first Steering Committee meeting was held. The goals for the CESP were adopted during this meeting. These goals align with the plan's purpose and will help determine the strategies needed to reduce air pollutants, greenhouse gas (GHG) emission levels, and energy usage within our community.

The Ecology Action Center held three rounds of meetings with each of the three Stakeholder groups. The Stakeholders were introduced to the 2008 and 2015 greenhouse gas inventories and the objective of creating a Community Energy Strategic Plan (CESP) for the Town of Normal and the City of Bloomington. The goals established for the CESP by the Steering Committee were refined by the Stakeholder groups. The Stakeholders established issues, problems, and contributing factors to the current state of the environment.

The Stakeholders utilized the research presented in the 2008 and 2015 greenhouse gas inventories, as well as their established issues, problems, and contributing factors from prior meetings, to assist in formulating strategies to reduce local greenhouse gas emissions. These strategies aligned with the goals established for the CESP by the Steering Committee and the Stakeholder groups.

The Ecology Action Center then compiled the proposed greenhouse gas mitigation strategies brought forth by the stakeholder groups. The EAC met with the Steering Committee to ensure that the goals set forth aligned with the goals established for the Community Energy Strategic Plan (CESP) and to identify any gaps in the strategies. The EAC began the process of analyzing the potential GHG mitigation value along with a cost-benefit analysis for each potential strategy.

ORGANIZATION

Using the Stakeholder materials, which highlight examples from other communities and data from Bloomington- Normal, the Ecology Action Center, with participation from the Steering Committee and Stakeholders, will compile a report specifying the strategies to obtain the

goals of the CESP set forth by the EAC and the Steering Committee. The finalized plan will ultimately be presented to the Town of Normal and the City of Bloomington.

SPECIFIC ACTIVITIES

- Finished support materials for stakeholder groups within the Bloomington-Normal Community Energy Strategic Plan process
- Compiled suggestions for the Bloomington-Normal CESP from examples of other communities participating in CESP
- Formed steering committee
- Identified potential participants for the three stakeholder groups
- Trained EAC staff in usage of ClearPath inventory projection software
- Met with stakeholders to determine which strategies should be included in CESP
- Organized strategies for CESP from stakeholder groups
- Compiled white paper reports on suggested strategies for GHG mitigation
- Met with steering committee to determine any gaps in strategies for CESP
- Compiled white paper reports on suggested gaps in strategies for GHG mitigation
- Began to compile cost benefit analysis of all suggested strategies

NEXT STEPS

- Hold additional Stakeholder meetings to define implementation strategies for CESP
- Use ClearPath software along with ideas proposed for CESP to project potential GHG mitigation which will be in accordance with the goals set forth in the BNCESP.
- Continue developing cost benefit analysis of suggested strategies to determine which strategies are economically and environmentally sustainable.
- Work towards development of draft CESP for stakeholder feedback.
- Finalization of the 2015 Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory Update Report. The EAC will wait to finalize this report until after the stakeholder process, as more content may be added.
- Finalization of the Bloomington-Normal Community Energy Strategic Plan.