

Notes from September 2020 IREC Steering Committee Meeting

- **Energy Services Performance Contracting (ESPC):** I'm very interested in pursuing ESPC for each town to make energy improvements in municipal buildings. I've attached information on ESPC to this email. My hope is to get as many towns as possible on board (and potentially school districts too) in order to get a better deal from one of these companies. The next steps here are:
 - Decide if your town will participate
 - Issue a joint Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for Energy Services Companies (ESCOs) and select the most qualified company
 - Conduct energy audits this Fall and develop a work scope for energy improvements
 - Secure funding, either through a bond vote in March or another means
 - Implement energy improvements in 2021
- **Community solar:** I'm starting to feel some momentum here as a couple of towns have identified potential sites for community solar. Again, a joint Request for Proposals (RFP) from solar developers would be ideal if we can get the timing right.
- **Green Mountain Power Charging Station Leasing Program:** This will be opening a pilot program for leasing charging stations in mid- to late-October. The cost to lease a charging station will be around \$50-\$60/month. Considering it cost about \$20,000 to install two charging stations when I was working in Hartford, this is good deal for towns interested in expanding their EV charging infrastructure. More to come on this as GMP irons out the details.
- **Energy efficient purchasing policies:** I'm working with Vermont Law School to develop a model policy available for all towns in the IREC program to adopt that would ensure that efficient, cost-effective purchasing decisions are made using life-cycle cost analysis. I will share drafts when ready.
- **Idle-reduction technology:** There are technologies that can power a vehicle's equipment when parked without having to run the engine, and can result in significant fuel savings depending on the vehicle. I'm looking into whether any company will let us pilot their product for free.
- **Button Up/Energy Savings Outreach Campaign:** Don't forget to sign up for Button Up! And let me know if you're interested in the Energy Savings Outreach Campaign with Vital Communities (virtual campaign targeted to mobile home owners). Vital Communities put together a [great list of resources here](#) that you can share with your community even if you're not interested in running a campaign.