

SERG 2006 Annual Report

TOWN ENERGY COMMITTEES & VERMONT ENERGY & CLIMATE ACTION NETWORK (VECAN) - SERG helped form new energy committees and implement energy-saving programs in Hanover (street lighting), Putney (CFL sales), Sharon (biodiesel in town equipment) and Strafford (just forming) this year. We also worked with our VECAN partners to replicate SERG's model of town energy committees, and

Created an Energy and Climate Action Guide to help form new energy committees.

Led a workshop on forming new town energy committees at a state-wide environmental conference.

Networked with 20 local energy committees throughout Vermont and New Hampshire and facilitated a Vermont state-wide gathering for all committees to share experiences.

STREET LIGHTING CAMPAIGN - SERG consulted with the Town of Thetford in its case before the Vermont Public Service Board to secure ownership of streetlights from Central Vermont Public Service, which is resisting this request. Town ownership would save Thetford money and enable it to install more efficient lights, fixtures and controls. A positive decision by the VPSB would set a precedent to benefit other Vermont towns.

LEBANON LANDFILL METHANE - SERG recruited a Dartmouth graduate student to conduct a study and produce a report on the economic and technical feasibility of collecting and using methane from the Lebanon Landfill. The study findings look promising for using this renewable energy for heat and electricity, reducing greenhouse gas emissions and odors from the landfill and providing a revenue stream for the City.

COMPACT FLUORESCENT BULB SALES - SERG sold 227 CFL's this year. Over their lifetimes, these bulbs will: reduce electric use by 136,350 kilo-Watt hours, save \$16,362 in energy expenditures and cut CO2 emissions by over 100 tons.

HOME ASSESSMENTS - Last heating season SERG analyzed and reported on the home heating efficiency of 165 residential energy surveys. We also conducted 9 home energy audits and provided reports to homeowners on reducing energy use.

EDUCATION & OUTREACH

Organized a biodiesel workshop attended by representatives from 20 towns, institutions and businesses using large quantities of diesel.

Provided periodic information to our database of almost 1300 people about energy-saving tips, and issues concerning the Vermont Yankee and wind developments.

Organized community showings of the films "End of Suburbia" and "Kilowatt Ours" and a public forum featuring Paul Scheckel, author of "The Home Energy Diet" at the Norwich Library. About 40 community members attended each of these presentations.

Helped lead a Weatherization Workshop in Hartford organized by COVER and attended by 35 community residents.