



News from the County of Cumberland

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CUMBERLAND COUNTY RECEIVES RENEWABLE RESOURCES GRANT

Cumberland County, ME- The evaluation panel of the Maine Public Utilities Commission has completed its review of the proposals received in response to RFP 200908496 - Renewable Resources Community Demonstration Project. The proposals submitted by the following municipalities within Cumberland County received high scores using the criteria outlined in the RFP:

Falmouth School Department
Greely High School
Cumberland County
Freeport, Town of

The above, as well as counties and municipalities throughout the state will receive direct and competitive EECBG funds from the Department of Energy for Demonstration Projects under the Renewable Resources Fund that can be used for electricity production utilizing photovoltaic technology. This demonstration project will provide a model for other units of government. The project will also serve as a model for other commercial buildings in the Cumberland County area. The County will be required to match the grant with at least 20% of the overall grant amount.

In preparing for the usage of the funding, County Facilities Manager Bruce Tarbox said, "I propose pursuing the grant with plans for the subsequent installation of a photovoltaic array at the Cumberland County Courthouse. I am proposing a 10.3 kilowatt photovoltaic system which will produce roughly 1,169 kilowatt hours per month or 14,025 kilowatt hours annually."

The total cost of this project would be \$59,080. The grant amount is \$47,265. The County would be required to match 20 percent, or \$11,816. Under current arrangements with electricity producers this project is anticipated to have a positive annual impact to the County budget of about \$2,200, or an ROI for the County of over 18.5%, with a payback period of just over five years. For more information contact Elizabeth Trice at 871-8380.

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