

Title: Report to the Senate Committee on Institutions and the House Committee on Corrections and Institutions on the expenditure of funds from the State Energy Management Program Revolving Funds.

Date: January 15, 2022

In accordance with Act 178 of 2014, Section 41. 29 V.S.A. § 168, State Energy Management Program; Revolving Funds, (f) Beginning on or before January 15, 2015 and annually thereafter, the Department of Buildings and General Services (BGS) shall report to the Senate Committee on Institutions and the House Committee on Corrections and Institutions on the expenditure of funds from the State Resource Management Revolving Fund (SRMRF) for resource conservation measures and the State Energy Revolving Fund (SERF) for energy efficiency improvements and the use of renewable resources. For each fiscal year, the report shall include a summary of each project receiving funding and the State's expected savings.

State Resource Management Revolving Fund (SRMRF) Project Summary

State government has invested \$2,725,378 from the SRMRF in energy projects that have resulted in over \$2,921,776 in avoided energy costs to date. The SRMRF currently has \$210,191.85 available for funding future energy efficiency projects.

In total, sixty-four (64) projects have received funding through the SRMRF. These projects have conserved over 182,243 MMBTU of energy and reduced roughly 15,505 metric tons of carbon dioxide (MTCO_{2e}) equivalent greenhouse gas emissions.

Six (6) projects were approved for funding in 2021 as outlined below:

- BGS is conducting a Flexible Load Management pilot program with Green Mountain Power at the Waterbury State Office Complex, Bennington District Court and Office, and Brattleboro State Office in Waterbury, Bennington, and Brattleboro, VT.

This project is estimated to cost \$56,838 and will save an estimated \$12,818 annually in energy costs, and 87 MTCO_{2e} over the life of the project.

- BGS is replacing exterior windows at Brattleboro State Office Building at 232 Main Street in Brattleboro, VT.

The energy efficiency portion of the project is estimated to cost \$2,773 and will save an estimated \$286 annually in energy costs, 6.69 MMBTU annually, and 0.7 MTCO_{2e} over the life of the project.

- BGS is replacing existing old and failing fluorescent lighting with LED retrofit kits in rooms 103 & 105 at the 120 State Street Offices in Montpelier, VT.

This project is estimated to cost \$904 and will save an estimated \$174 annually in electricity costs, and 8 MTCO_{2e} over the life of the project.

- BGS is replacing fluorescent can lights with LEDs at the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) offices 120 State Street in Montpelier, VT.

This project is estimated to cost \$1,080 and will save an estimated \$635 annually in electricity and maintenance costs and 11 MTCO_{2e}.

- BGS is upgrading existing fixtures with LED retrofit fixtures on the second floor of the Commercial Vehicle Operations area at 120 State Street in Montpelier, VT.

This project is estimated to cost \$804 and will save an estimated \$210 annually in electricity costs, and 3.3 MTCO_{2e} over the life of the project.

- BGS is replacing the existing high intensity lighting in the ceiling fixtures of the tunnel between the parking garage and Center Street with LEDs and motion sensors, at the Multi-modal Transit Center, 102 West Street in Rutland, VT.

This project cost \$660 and will save an estimated \$1,087 annually in electricity costs, and 49 MTCO_{2e} over the life of the project.

State Energy Revolving Fund (SERF) Project Summary

State government has invested \$2,905,238 from the SERF in energy projects that have resulted in over \$915,868 in avoided energy costs to date. A credit facility of up to \$8 million may be established at the Treasurer's discretion of which \$5,031,626 is currently available for approval to fund additional energy projects.

In total, fourteen (14) projects have received funding through the SERF. These projects have helped to conserve over 19,874 MMBTU of energy and reduce roughly 2,110 MTCO_{2e} greenhouse gas emissions.

One (1) project was approved for funding in 2021 as outlined below:

- The Department of Buildings and General Services will replace existing emergency lighting with new LED lighting emergency fixtures and 90-minute battery backup ballasts at the Asa Bloomer Office Building in Rutland, VT.

This project is estimated to cost \$27,440 and will save an estimated \$7,100 annually in electricity and maintenance costs, 21,803 kWh annually, and 9.3 MTCO_{2e} annually.

As a result of logistical challenges related to the COVID-19 pandemic, the development and implementation of new SRMRF and SERF projects was significantly constrained in 2021. New interior construction projects will increase as we continue to implement safe construction practices created during the pandemic, while ensuring the safety of state employees who must continue to carry-out their job duties within state owned facilities. In addition, project development constraints concerning the required 7-year payback period for the SERF have reduced the number of approved projects over the last several fiscal years. Removing the 7-year required payback for SERF loans would increase the number of approved projects.

The BGS Energy Office administers the State Energy Management Program (SEMP). The Energy Office is involved in multiple ongoing initiatives that contribute to the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions associated with State Government operations. These initiatives span beyond the expenditure of funds from the SERF and SRMRF detailed in this report, including the development and expansion of an electric vehicle charging infrastructure program to serve Fleet Management Services, State employees, and the public. In accordance with [2015 Acts and Resolves No. 58, Sec. E.112, as amended by 2019 Acts and Resolves No. 72, Sec. E.112](#), on or before October 1st of each year, a comprehensive SEMP Annual Report is submitted to the House Committee on Corrections and Institutions, the Senate Committee on Institutions, the House and Senate Committees on Natural Resources and Energy, the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations, the Secretary of Administration, and the Joint Fiscal Office.

The 2021 SEMP annual report can be found here:

https://legislature.vermont.gov/assets/Legislative-Reports/SEMP_Annual_Report_FY21.pdf