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## Local Energy Solutions E-News

*Turning Ideas into Action*

**November 2016**



***Don't Miss the LES Conference!***  
***November 19th in Concord, NH***

Featuring presentations on effective resources and strategies for developing strong community energy projects, one-on-one technical assistance with the state's leading experts, brainstorm sessions to collectively tackle NH's local energy challenges, and an inspiring keynote address by the NH Consumer Advocate, **Donald M. Kreis**, and nationally-recognized champion for inclusive energy financing, **Dr. Holmes Hummel** of Clean Energy Works.

[Check out the full working agenda here](#) and [Register Today!](#)

Thanks to all of our sponsors!



## Energy News

### Clean Energy Improvements at the Nation's Oldest Ski Club

Nansen Ski Club, the nation's oldest ski club was organized in 1872 and is in the process of incorporating renewable energy technologies into the construction of a warming hut, which is located next to the winter parking area at Milan Hill State Park. Construction on the hut began Memorial Day weekend and a 2.52-kilowatt rooftop solar array will be installed later this month. The hut will also feature an air source heat pump and a woodstove. The solar array will provide the electricity needed to power the heat pump and to warm and start the club's trail grooming equipment, which is used to maintain 16 kilometers of Nordic ski trails at the park.

The project began this spring when the New Hampshire Division of Parks and Recreation prepared the site and poured the hut's foundation. Garland Mill Timberframes of Lancaster donated time and timber for the project. The area provides top-notch Nordic ski trails and a great place for family activities.

### Button-Up Vermont - All Day Action

Button Up Vermont is a multi-media awareness campaign culminating in a statewide day of action where neighbors help neighbors prepare their homes for winter, and save energy. Throughout the campaign, Vermonters are encouraged to do things large and small to save energy and live more sustainably. Specifically, they are encouraged to generate custom Button Up check-lists online, complete their energy-saving tasks throughout the campaign, send photos of completed tasks or check-lists, and participate in a community event on November 12. Find out more at <http://www.buttonupvermont.org/>

### Solar Up NH

The summer campaign of Solar Up NH in Franconstown, New Boston and Weare came to a close on October 15, 2016. The results are now in. A total of 97 inquiries were submitted from residents in the towns of Franconstown and New Boston. A total of 39 of these resulted in quotes for solar, including the Town of New Boston Public Library and so far a total of 4 homes have signed contracts and are moving forward with installations: 2 of these are installed already. In Weare, a total of 152 inquiries were submitted from residents. 82% or 125 of these inquiries resulted in site visits and 26% or 33 contracts were signed for new SOLAR installations. The average system size was 7.30 kW. We are pleased to report that at least 37 new solar PV installations will occur as a result of the program and there may be additional installations in the future. For more information, please contact Jack Munn, Chief Planner, Southern New Hampshire Planning Commission at [jmunn@snhpc.org](mailto:jmunn@snhpc.org)

### Community Solar Gardens

Two solar gardens in Dover and Keene are up and running providing power to NH Nonprofit housing customers that otherwise could not place solar on their property's roofs.



## Workshops & Trainings

### EPA Smart Growth Technical Assistance Programs

[Click here](#) to learn out about the many technical assistance opportunities to help communities learn about and implement smart growth approaches.

### High Performance Schools Summits

Following the successful summit in Rhode Island, don't miss the one in NH. If you want to study how to improve the student learning environment and contribute to the academic success of our students, join NEEP & its partners for High Performance Schools Summit on November 9th. The summit will gather a wide variety of school stakeholders including architects, engineers, facility and energy managers, utility program administrators and school business officials. In an effort to bring together a large audience to share best practices and real-world expertise, the event is free. Registration for now open. Please visit [New Hampshire Summit](#) webpages for more information.

### 29 Efficiency Workshops

Efficiency workshops will be happening all over the state this Fall. Most of these are focused on municipalities and larger buildings. This list is still a work in progress but most of the dates are confirmed. As details are finalized for each specific event they will be posted on [NHSaves.com](#)

### Funding Available

Ongoing SolSmart Technical Assistance. SolSmart is a national recognition and a no-cost technical assistance program for local governments. The program is designed to drive greater solar deployment and help make it possible for more homes and businesses to access affordable and renewable solar energy to meet their electricity needs. SolSmart experts will design personalized action plans for communities that outline a path to designation as a SolSmart community, along with a rough timeline. SolSmart is federally funded for a three-year period, but is expected to persist beyond this timeframe. Stakeholder and community benefits are described on the program website. <http://www.gosparc.org/>

### Button Up NH Workshops

Check out the [Events Calendar](#) for dates on the remaining Button Up NH programs.

## New Energy Resources

### Sustainable Solar Education Project

The [Sustainable Solar Education Project](#) provides timely information and educational resources to help states and municipalities ensure distributed solar electricity remains consumer friendly and benefits low- and moderate-income households. The project is developing program guides, webinars, online course material, and in-person training for government officials on topics related to strengthening solar equitability, improving consumer information, and implementing consumer protection measures. It is managed by the Clean Energy State Alliance (CESA) and funded

through the U.S. Department of Energy SunShot Initiative's Solar Training and Education for Professionals program.

### Energy Procurement Storage

A set of guidance documents for Municipalities have been made available on Energy Storage Procurement. These documents were originally produced to support Massachusetts Department of Energy's Community Clean Energy Resilience Initiative awardees in energy storage procurement. This document is available [here](#).

## EVENTS CALENDAR



[Click](#) on the calendar to see what is happening in November & beyond.

## ABOUT THE LES WORK GROUP

Our mission is to provide collaborative guidance and technical support to Local Energy Committees & Commissions (LEC's), municipalities, schools, and other political subdivisions\* seeking to reduce energy use, minimize energy costs, and/or reduce fossil-fuel consumption. Consider joining our efforts: contact [Leigh Cameron](#) for more information on the LES Work Group's efforts and opportunities for participation.

About Our E-Newsletter: The monthly Local Energy Solutions E-newsletter of the NH LES Work Group is compiled and distributed by the New England Grassroots Environment Fund on behalf of the NH Local Energy Solutions Work Group. [Learn more about the Grassroots Fund.](#)

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