

Pioneer Valley Clean Energy Plan Target Audience Action Sheet:

Municipalities

- Become an ICLEI Local Governments for Sustainability Cities for Climate Protection (CCP) member either as a municipality or as part of a regional planning agency.
- Endorse the clean energy policy statement adopted by PVPC and FRCOG.
- Consider hosting or owning a clean energy generating system or plant in your community where resources and environmental conditions allow. Factors to consider include the availability of close biomass resources and water power, adequate wind, and access to the sun, and proximity to transmission lines. In addition, consider the land's appropriateness as a site for energy production. Is the land not protected or awaiting protection and not of cultural or historic importance?
- Conduct energy audits (if not conducted in the last two years) and work with PVPC and FRCOG (as appropriate) to apply for MTC small renewable funds (or equivalent) to implement efficiency and conservation measures identified in audit.
- Consider a performance contract with an energy service company (ESCO), using performance contracting to conduct comprehensive energy audits of all municipal buildings, and implement recommendations at no upfront cost to community—funded via savings accrued by implementing energy efficiency measures.
- Adopt bylaws or ordinances to require or give incentives to encourage green buildings, energy efficiency, renewable energy production, public transportation, smart growth, clean fuels, efficient vehicles, and sustainable development.
- Include an energy element in your municipalities' comprehensive plan.
- Consider using brownfield sites for renewable energy development.
- Collaborate with PVPC and FRCOG to apply for funds to implement this plan.
- Work with the western Massachusetts legislative delegation to assure prompt adoption and implementation of policy recommendations.
- Establish local residential building code to comply minimally with Energy Star®.
- Purchase clean energy.
- Form an Energy Committee.

The executive summary, plan, and appendices are available at
www.pvpc.org and www.frcog.org.

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