



Building Decarbonization

Commercial Properties & Networks

A PROGRAM OF SUSTAINABLE WESTCHESTER

Request for Information (RFI)
REACH
Renewable Energy Alternative Cooling & Heating
MAY 14, 2024

Sustainable Westchester (SW) invites building owners in Peekskill and Yonkers to respond to the REACH offering which aims to decarbonize your building(s) and assess the feasibility of connection to a municipality-led Thermal Energy Network (TEN). REACH compliments SW's current project with the Cities of Peekskill and Yonkers to develop renewable energy infrastructure for heating and cooling*. If your building is selected, SW will work with you to identify the highest resource-efficient energy reduction and electrification methods, employing strategies and technologies that *maximize financial incentives* and reduce risks.

*Read more about SW's Municipal TEN Accelerator project and how TENs offer efficient, fossil fuel-free heating and cooling via interconnected pipe loops, fostering community resilience, public health, and economic benefits:

<https://sustainablewestchester.org/grant-to-develop-clean-energy/>

Check out this video on TENs: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Hu310LfgMiM&t=2s>

Benefits for Building Owners and Operators

- Cut the cost of building electrification
- Utilize a community energy network service at a lower cost than fossil fuel utilities
- Reduce reliance on fossil fuel utilities, providing resilience to rising costs
- Improve air quality and tenant comfort
- Secure a trusted partner in building decarbonization to aggregate purchasing power and vet competitive vendors

Respond to this RFI to work with SW's team to decarbonize your building and potentially join a TEN cluster in your community.

Decarbonize Your Building and Receive a Free TEN Pre-Feasibility Assessment	
Issue Date	May 14, 2024
Qualified Applicants	Peekskill and Yonkers building owners and operators of commercial buildings such as affordable housing, non-profits, schools, houses of worship, community centers, mixed-use, municipal buildings, and others are eligible for this cost-cutting decarbonization service.
Due Date	July 26, 2024
Submission Instructions	<p>Complete this form.</p> <p>Once selected, you must submit the Client Agreement within 45 days, fully executed. This document, along with a Sample Scope of Services, are available upon request: Building Owner Additional Materials Request Form</p>
Webinar	June 20, 2024, register at this link today
RFI Question Instructions	We welcome the opportunity to answer questions and assist with your submission, inquire by completing this form by May 31, 2024: Building Owner Q&A Form

Program Summary

Sustainable Westchester, a nonprofit consortium of local governments, promotes clean energy solutions through innovative services. REACH (Renewable Energy Alternative Cooling and Heating) brings community Thermal Energy Networks (TENs) to Westchester, proven to:

- Cut greenhouse gas emissions and enhance public health
- Slash energy costs by up to 40%
- Shield against fuel price fluctuations
- Accelerate the clean energy transition

As the leading sustainability nonprofit in the county with deep ties to key stakeholders, SW proposes to serve as your building representative who will:

- Facilitate your building decarbonization with the latest clean energy technologies
- Help secure project funding
- Potentially link your building(s) to TENs for added benefits

Should your building be part of a feasible TEN cluster, you could become a network customer.

Application Timeline	
RFI released for Building Owners	May 14, 2024
Questions due by	May 31, 2024
Answers provided by	June 7, 2024
Webinar	June 20, 2024
RFI for Buildings Owners Due Date	July 26, 2024
Building Owners Selected and Applicants Notified	November 4, 2024

Next Steps

1. Building owners [respond to RFI](#) to confirm interest in upgrading systems and to be considered for future TEN cluster inclusion. This will be a no-cost step, and will ensure you are included in the process.
 - a. SW's technical assistance will help you to identify decarbonization measures with our retrofit tool.
 - b. SW's TEN pre-feasibility tool aggregates buildings into clusters to be ranked for connection to the TEN based on the financial and energy models. If your building is selected as part of the TEN cluster, SW will facilitate your building(s)' connection to the network.
2. Building owner signs agreement with SW to serve as its building representative**. With its deep expertise in building decarbonization and extensive industry connections, SW will identify appropriate technologies and solution providers, obtain and evaluate proposals, and ensure compliance with any state, local, or federal incentive requirements.
3. SW will partner to decarbonize your building with high-impact energy efficiency and electrification upgrades using the Benchmark, Reduce, Recover, Electrification model, preparing building(s) for connection to TEN. Even if your building is NOT selected for inclusion in the TEN, the selected building upgrades will feature attractive financial returns as standalone projects.
 - a. Working with our expert partners, SW will facilitate a comprehensive energy audit to accurately assess the existing energy profile of the building(s).

- b. Using a holistic and phased approach, SW and its industry partners will identify the highest resource-efficient energy conservation measures. Some examples include envelope improvements, ventilation maintenance, and control system upgrades which will pave the way for building electrification.
- c. SW will help identify opportunities for building level waste heat recovery to further reduce the building energy load. Examples include energy or heat recovery ventilators.
- d. Once you have a significantly reduced energy load profile, the building will be ready for full or partial electrification.

**SW, a nonprofit organization, will charge a small administrative fee as a percentage of the total project/upgrades.

Note: SW has issued an RFQ for building decarbonization vendors. We received 60 responses which we are scoring based on a rubric to create a list of preferred vendors which will receive RFPs for selected building owner's projects.