



Implementing a Green Revolving Fund at SUNY ESF



State University of New York
College of Environmental Science and Forestry

Purpose



- A GRF will accelerate capital investments in energy conservation measures that have cost savings potential and environmental benefits.
- Allows SUNY ESF to eliminate the competition for funds on our campus and initially funding only energy conservation measures (ECM's) and eventually sustainability efforts.
- A GRF is a vehicle to help meet Executive Order 88's mandates and beyond.
- A GRF will dispell the myth that sustainability projects are only an expense with little or no ROI.
- Balances the benefits to the GRF to the benefits of the college, especially when budgets are tight.

Seed Money



- Initial funding set aside from the general budget.
- Savings from energy projects, up to six years, and cost avoidances will be redistributed to the GRF.
- Six years after a project is implemented, any saving's will be allocated to SUNY ESF's general fund.
- National Grid and NYSERDA rebates will go back into the GRF.

Getting Started

- Procuring ASHRAE level 2 energy audits for the main campus and the Ranger School.
- Audits will provide a list of ECM's with projected energy savings and implementation costs.
- Energy working group and facilities will rank and prioritize projects/ECM's.
- Goal is to create and implement an Energy Master Plan.

Project Criteria



- Projects with a ROI of <6 years and being either capital, operational and behavioral will be prioritized and 100% of the savings will be re-invested into the GRF.
- If it is expected that the savings from any project cannot be precisely measured and verified, a project can still be funded from the GRF and pay back into the GRF, but projected savings will accrue to the GRF at a rate of 80% until payback is satisfied, and 60% thereafter, up to the maximum of 6 years.
- A project cost cannot exceed 50% of balance of the GRF.

Measurement & Verification



- Electrical ECM 's with unknown variables (i.e. dimming controls, variable frequency drives) will have additional utility grade low-cost sub-metering included in the initial project cost to verify quarterly energy consumption/savings when compared to the baseline.
- Electrical ECM projects with known variables (i.e. set on/off lighting times and schedules verified with before and after amp draws of the circuit) will have savings quantified on a fiscal-year basis.
- Mechanical and building envelope ECM projects will be verified with energy modeling software and the DOE M&V guidelines.
- Lucid building analytics will assist in measurement and verification.
- All projects will be tracked in the cloud based GRITS (Green Revolving Investment Tracking System) software.



Questions?