



Dryden Renewable Energy Workgroup

Report to the Dryden Town Board
August 14th, 2008
W.B. Strong Fire Station

Goals:

1. Make Dryden a leader in renewable energy with a focus on building energy sources and usage and building heating and cooling.
2. Promote renewable energy development and implementation in the Town of Dryden for the government use of energy (town, villages, and school districts), businesses, not-for-profits, and home owners.

Objectives:

1. Implement renewable energy (wind, solar, geothermal) on municipal and school buildings to reduce non-renewable energy usage by taxing authority – giving better, more cost effective and local control for energy generation. Specifically the town highway buildings and the school buildings.
2. Develop an education plan via the town website and code enforcement office with guidance on conservation and programs to support conservation, publicly available maps of wind zones, solar zones, and geothermal zones.
3. Create a Town Energy Strategy with a modification to the Town of Dryden Comprehensive Plan that takes energy usage, generation of energy, and a long range plan for implementation of renewable energy programs throughout the town into account.

Specific Tasks requested of the Town Board:

1. Direct the conservation board to take up renewable energy initiatives: research, development, and creation of maps marking wind zones, solar zones, geothermal zones, and biomass capable properties.
2. Direct the planning board to take up renewable energy initiatives: review the comprehensive plan and determine if a Town Energy Strategy is lacking in the existing plan.
3. Begin partnerships between the Town of Dryden, Village of Dryden, and Village of Freeville, for a plan to implement solar on the town and village highway buildings including support for research, grants, planning, and implementation.
4. Review the New York state law on net-metering and begin lobbying the state assembly, state senate, and governor's office for treatment of net-excess energy creation at retail rate vs. current wholesale rate.
5. Support partnerships between the Town of Dryden and Dryden based farms for development of renewable energy projects including grant writing and implementation support.

