**U.S. Department of Energy (DOE)  
Clean Energy to Communities (C2C) Program**

Summary of Technical Assistance (TA) Support

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| Icon  Description automatically generatedBuildings |
| Icon  Description automatically generatedClean Power |
| Climate Mitigation and Resilience |
| Cross-Sectoral Justice |
| A picture containing text, clipart  Description automatically generatedJobs and Economic Development |
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**Milwaukee, WI**

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From March through June 2024, the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) provided technical support to the City of Milwaukee to inform the city’s efforts to estimate the potential emissions reductions for proposed solar, buildings, and electric vehicle (EV) projects. This assistance leveraged the REopt and ComStock tools, in addition to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s (EPA) Avoided Emissions and Generation Tool (AVERT).

Deliverables included (1) a short report providing guidance on estimating greenhouse gas (GHG) reductions and (2) high-level runs in REopt and ComStock to help inform ongoing solar and commercial building retrofit efforts. The deliverables provided key guidance as the city applied to the EPA Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG).

 Impact

The representative from Milwaukee stated “I am floored by the quality and quantity of helpful assumptions, data, and analysis with graphics. Having all of this happen in two weeks and with holidays is stunning…Five Star plus performance.”

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**Background**

Ann Arbor is a city of approximately 122,000 people located in southeast Michigan. The city and its residents are leaders in sustainability and climate action. Their A2ZERO Climate Action Plan outlines their just transition pathway to community-wide carbon neutrality by 2030. With equity as a focus, they are implementing strategies to improve home energy efficiency (EE) and electrify appliances. Toward this, the city wants to explore community geothermal heating and cooling to serve a variety of building types including rental and affordable housing. The city has applied to DOE’s Geothermal Heating and Cooling Design and Deployment program and garnered the support of City Council to pursue these projects, but they need to understand the concept’s feasibility in order to make a “go, no-go” decision.

The City of Milwaukee has a population of almost 600,000. It is the most populous city in the state of Wisconsin, and it recently passed a climate and equity plan with goals to reduce GHG emissions 45% by 2020 and achieve net zero emissions by 2050. The equity component of this plan is to improve racial and economic equity by creating green jobs that pay at least $40,000 and focusing on recruiting more local people of color.

The City’s Environmental Collaboration Office oversees implementation of this plan. However, most of their efforts will be contingent on federal funding. As such, the Environmental Collaboration Office is applying to several federal funding efforts including the EPA CPRG. The EPA CPRG requires estimates of how proposed clean energy projects will reduce GHG emissions.

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Description automatically generated with low confidence Expert Match Team

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Community Lead, Main Expert Match Point of Contact and Program Lead, National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL)

**Michael Young**  
Greenhouse Gas Accounting Expert, NREL

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REopt Modeling Engineer, NREL

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**Erick Shambarger**  
Director of Sustainability

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Environmental Sustainability Program Manager

For more information, visit:  
**energy.gov/eere/clean-energy-communities-program**

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