

VERMONT STATE CONSERVATION INNOVATION GRANTS
Quarterly Progress Report

Project Title: Fuel from the Field to the Flue: Grass pellet heating equipment combustion optimization project.
Grantee Name: Meach Cove Real Estate Trust
Project Director: Christopher W. Davis
Progress report author (if different than Director):
Period Covered by Report: 10/1/2013 to 12/31/2013
Project End Date: 4/30/2014

Work performed during this period:

1. The Project Director met numerous times with Adam Dantscher of Renewable Energy Resources (RER), LLC to review the contract for the Evo 350c (100 kW or 333,000 btu/hr) boiler under construction at the Troy Boiler Works, in Troy, N.Y. These same individuals collaborated in the renovation of the boiler room at 310 Beach Road and solicited proposals from several qualified local plumbing contractors to do the installation of the boiler and reconfigure how the building is heated.
2. Work continued by the Meach Cove Farms crew on the building and boiler room located at 310 Beach Rd. in Shelburne, VT where the Evo 350c boiler will be installed. This work included patching and painting the existing steel wall coverings in the boiler room, fire calking both rooms, installing lights prior to the electrician wiring them, reconstructing the room adjacent to the boiler room to serve as the fuel storage area. The fuel room has two separate bins to store wood or grass pellets, and the other for grass briquettes to be made by RER from various grasses harvested from the Meach Cove Farms test plots.
3. The Project Director met and corresponded with the Vermont Assistant Fire Marshal to review the design features and code compliance issues for the boiler installation and the fuel storage bins.
4. In October the Meach Cove Farms crew installed the pellet and chip/briquette fuel loading equipment in the building that had been delivered by the Troy Boiler Works.
5. Meach Cove Farms assisted a local farmer, Gerry Guilmette, who harvested and baled the grasses grown in the test plots, in moving the bales of grass from the Meach Cove test plot into a barn on the Meach Cove property in October.

6. The Project Director worked with Adam Dantzcher of RER, and the team at Troy Boiler Works to resolve issues and questions regarding the boiler assembly and boiler room layout in preparation for a scheduled delivery to Meach Cove in January.
7. The Project Director located several vendors to provide proposals for a boiler flue with the appropriate specifications recommended by Evo, the boiler manufacturer. The specifications for the 316 grade stainless steel for the flue lining is a critical feature when burning grass fuel which sometimes has corrosive properties which can impact the life of the flue.

EQIP and CIG provisions:

1. The primary EQIP-eligible producer for this project is:

Meach Cove Real Estate Trust
P.O. Box 309
Shelburne, VT 05482
2. There are no (\$00.00) direct or indirect payments for structural, vegetative or management practices under this project.
3. The Project Director, Christopher W. Davis, certifies that there will not be any direct or indirect payments made to an individual or entity for any structural, vegetative or management practices through this grant. The AIG and HEL/WC provisions do not apply to this project.

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