

United States Department of Agriculture

U.S. Department of Agriculture 1400 Independence Avenue SW Washington, DC 20250 www.rd.usda.gov

## **News Release**

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## USDA Invests in Clean Energy Projects to Lower Costs and Increase American Energy Security Across the Nation

Clean Energy New Hampshire, Granite State Small Businesses Receive More than \$2 Million through REAP

**WASHINGTON, Jan. 10, 2025** – The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) today announced that the Agency is investing in <u>\$120 million in 516 projects</u> to expand access to clean energy systems through the <u>Rural Energy for America Program</u> (REAP). Nine New Hampshire small businesses will receive **\$1,535,551** for clean-energy projects, while Clean Energy New Hampshire will use a **\$499,638** REAP Technical Assistance grant to help other businesses apply and prepare to apply.

REAP helps farmers and small business owners make energy efficiency improvements and expand their use of wind, solar and other forms of clean energy.

For example:

- Clean Energy New Hampshire will use \$499,638 to assist rural small businesses and agricultural producers with energy assessments, efficiency education, SAM registration guidance, project management, outreach, and applying for REAP grants.
- Flag Hill Winery in Lee, NH, will use a \$66,600 REAP grant to install a solar array that will produce more than 50,000 kilowatt hours (kWh), valued at roughly \$8,400 annually, roughly 60 percent of the Winery's historical power consumption.
- Hamblet Electric in Keene, NH, a licensed electrical contractor serving the Monadnock region since 1945, will install a solar array expected to produce 30,600 kWh. This will totally offset the Business's annual electrical costs while generating additional income.

USDA Rural Development supports infrastructure improvements; business development; housing; community facilities such as schools, public safety and health care; and high-speed internet access in rural, tribal and high-poverty areas. Visit the <u>Rural Data Gateway</u> to learn how and where these investments are impacting rural America. To learn more, visit <u>www.usda.gov</u>.

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