

**TOWN OF HAWLEY  
MASSACHUSETTS 01339**

TOWN OFFICE:  
PUDDING HOLLOW ROAD  
TELEPHONE: 413-339-5518

February 20, 2018

Mr. Sean Powers  
Massachusetts Department of Revenue  
[powersse@dor.state.ma.us](mailto:powersse@dor.state.ma.us)

RE: Town of Hawley Community Compact; "Maximizing Energy Efficiency and Renewable Opportunities" Best Practice

Dear Mr. Powers:

In December, 2015, the Town of Hawley received a Community Compact grant, including a pledge of "Maximizing Energy Efficiency and Renewable Opportunities: There are documented and measurable energy use reduction goals; Clean power is generated locally; The municipal fleet is fuel efficient; Investments have been made in energy efficient municipal street lighting; Energy efficiency improvements and renewable thermal heating and cooling upgrades have been made to public facilities including water/wastewater plants." This Best Practice has been satisfied through recent efforts made by the Town of Hawley and will be complemented by initiatives still underway.

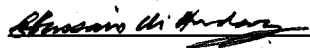
In 2016 the Town of Hawley contracted with Bales Energy Associates to complete ASHRAE Level II energy audits of the Town's three buildings: the Fire Station, Highway Garage, and Town Office. The audits were funded through a grant from the Massachusetts Department of Energy Resources (DOER). Energy use at each building was assessed and recommendations were provided to reduce energy consumption and to improve energy efficiency in each building. Also during 2016, Hawley requested assistance from the Franklin Regional Council of Governments (FRCOG) through the Local Technical Assistance Program to achieve Green Communities designation. FRCOG planning staff assisted the Town with developing an Energy Reduction Plan that outlines energy conservation measures to achieve a 20% reduction in municipal energy use within five years. In addition, the Town passed a Fuel Efficient Vehicle Policy on November 1, 2016, committing the Town to purchasing only fuel efficient vehicles whenever commercially available and practicable.

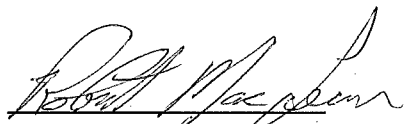
Hawley applied for and received Green Communities designation in fall 2016. The Town began working promptly on implementing identified energy conservation and renewable energy projects with its Green Communities designation grant. Assistance from the FRCOG was obtained through a DOER Municipal Energy Technical Assistance grant to help with project procurement and grant reporting. Recently, in October 2017, Hawley completed the installation of a 10kw solar PV system on the Town Highway Garage. The system is sized to meet almost 75% of the annual electric demand of the three Town buildings and the one municipal street light. The panels are located on one side of the Town Highway Garage roof, allowing for additional solar panels to be added in the future when funding becomes available.

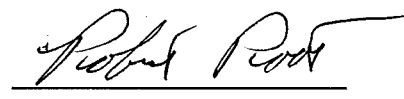
Through its Green Communities designation grant, Hawley is now in the process of installing an air source heat pump in the Town Office building to largely replace the use of a propane heater. The heat pump is expected to reduce annual energy consumption by 23.4 MMBtu and save the Town roughly \$525 annually in heating costs. In addition, weatherization and lighting upgrades are planned for the Town Office that will further reduce energy consumption in this building. Additionally the Town is exploring the possible installation of a pellet heating system in the Town Highway Garage building to replace the existing propane boiler.

The Town of Hawley has achieved significant milestones in the past several years that will reduce the Town's energy consumption and save money over the long-term. Hawley is appreciative of the Community Compact Best Practices program in helping to jumpstart this process towards implementing renewable energy in town and becoming more energy efficient. Hawley has met its Community Compact pledge of Maximizing Energy Efficiency and Renewable Opportunities.

Sincerely,

  
Hussain Hamdan, Chair  
Hawley Selectboard

  
Robert MacLean

  
Robert Root

cc: Sean Cronin, Sr., Deputy Commissioner of Local Services Division of Local Services ✓