

# Hollis Energy Committee Year End Report

## 2014

The Hollis Energy Committee (HEC), having accomplished energy conservation and energy saving projects, which resulted in continuing savings of \$128,000.00 a year to Hollis tax payers and providing investment grade audit reports for each town and School building, which further act as road maps for future energy savings, is now focusing on sustainable energy sources for the Town of Hollis. Three areas that HEC is exploring are:

1. Heating and Hot water
2. Electricity and,
3. Transportation

Presently HEC is focusing on Heating and Hot Water for all municipal and school buildings using sustainable energy sources that will save Hollis Tax payers substantially.

What we are envisioning for Hollis is a cluster of three woodchip District Heating Systems (**Cluster One**: Primary, Elementary and SAU41 Admin Building; **Cluster Two**: High School and Middle School; **Cluster Three**: Police Station and Fire Station, etc.,). However, all the buildings will be interconnected. It is very important that all our town and school buildings be interconnected. An interconnected and networked system is much more resilient and has higher reliability.

In all towns and school districts where centralized wood chip district heating systems are already functioning, they are invariably shut down during Summer months and individual buildings use back-up systems (electric, gas, or wood pellet) to provide hot water. This increases the cost of heating in the summer season and, in some cases, the backup systems even revert to fossil fuels.

If we have a system where all our buildings are networked, then in the summer months all but one District heating system can be shut down to provide hot water to all the buildings. This way we can continue to use woodchips twelve months a year. HEC has received a grant from NH Wood Energy Council to perform a Feasibility Study for a

woodchip based District Heating System for Cluster One (Primary, Upper Elementary, and SAU41 Administrative building).

#### **Why Biomass Heating Systems:**

- **Saves Hollis Tax payer \$\$\$**
  - BTU to BTU, wood pellets & wood chips are 50% and 70% cheaper than oil
  - Bio-mass boiler systems are highly automated with matured technologies
- **Keeps fuel dollars in the local economy & helps create jobs in New Hampshire**
  - Over 80% of heating in NH is supplied by imported fossil fuels
  - NH is the second most dependent state in the country on heating oil (Maine is #1)
  - NH exports about \$1 Billion annually to import fossil heating fuels
- **Renewable and Sustainable**
  - 84% of NH is forest

#### **Hollis Energy Committee Members:**

1. **Troy Brown**
2. **Stacy Diamantini**
3. **Christine Furman**
4. **Woody Hayes**
5. **Chris Heiter**
6. **Mike Leavitt**
7. **Venu Rao, Chair**
8. **Eric Ryherd**