Sustainability Performance Plan

FY 2022

This report was written in compliance with section 5 of Executive Order 1.

greenergovCT

A Lead by Example Initiative

Sustainability Performance Plan

Executive Order 1 (EO 1) calls on Executive Branch agencies to advance environmental leadership and cost savings for taxpayers by reducing greenhouse gas emissions and other sustainability objectives in energy use in buildings and vehicles, water use, and waste disposal.

The goals of EO 1 include:

- 45% reduction in GHG emissions below 2001 levels,
- 10% reduction in water consumption from a FY20 baseline, and
- 25% reduction in waste disposal from a FY20 baseline.

Sustainability Performance Plans are plans drafted each year by Senior Sustainability Officers to detail agency progress and necessary goals, actions, and responsible parties to achieve the targets set in EO 1.

This report includes details on sustainability initiatives and participation in the GreenerGovCT initiative in FY22.

Agency Details

Agency: Department of Public Health

Senior Sustainability Officer: Chukwuma Amechi

Date Submitted: 12/30/2022

GreenerGov CT Participation Overview

1. **How has your agency worked towards the sustainability goals of EO 1 in FY22?**

   Yes

2. **List key agency staff involved in EO 1 in FY22.**

   Jim Vannoy, Renewable Energy
   Sue Morin, Energy Efficiency (State Public Health Lab)
   Steven Harkey, Water Sustainability Project
   Danielle Pare, Energy CAP Invoice Uploader
   Laura Hayes (Advisory member)

Sustainability Projects

3. **How many projects has your agency implemented that had a positive impact on sustainability in FY22? Include projects relating to infrastructure improvements as well as behavioral change that took place in owned, leased, or occupied space and were either in progress or completed in FY22.**

There were 7 initiatives that the agency implemented that had positive impact on sustainability in FY22.

4. **Provide a summary of the sustainability projects completed in FY22 at your agency. For each project include:**
    a. **Project summary**
    b. **Project location**
    c. **Project status**
    d. **Project benefits**
    e. **Projected savings (in dollars and the appropriate unit of measurement if known)**

Project Location: DPH Laboratory

Project Summary, Status and Benefits

1. Installed Building Management System Upgrade (2021-2022) to provide better control of building functionality including things such as the HVAC system (heating & cooling). This is anticipated to result in increased efficiencies with energy use. Status: Complete

2. Installed Water Bottle Refill Stations (2022): saved >10,000 plastic bottles from landfill since installation in the Spring, 2022. (average ~1,300 bottles saved per month for ~100 employees). Status: Complete

3. Installed energy efficient Commercial dishwashers (2022). This is anticipated to provide savings in energy and water use. Status: Complete

4. Started the replacement of more energy efficient Autoclave equipment to replace failing units. These pieces of equipment are used for sterilization of biohazardous waste, media, and glassware for testing. This is anticipated to provide savings in energy and water use. Status: Not complete

5. Started the replacement of failed refrigerators and freezers to more energy efficient models. These are utilized for preservation of specimens, samples, testing supplies, etc. Additionally, the lab started the conversion of several ultralow -80 C models to -20 C where applicable. This is anticipated to provide savings in energy use. Status: Ongoing

6. Presented a ‘Sustainability Awareness’ session to laboratory employees in June 2022. This session provided education and awareness on the intent of the Executive Order in the area of energy efficiency and sustainable water use. Status: Complete.

7. Collaborated with the Connecticut Green Bank to determine feasibility for solar energy at the Laboratory location. Site visit occurred in December 2021 and potential location of the solar systems were identified. Status: Not complete.

Projected Savings:

The laboratory is extremely conscious of energy savings at all times. Due to continual expansion in services and instrumentation it is difficult to effectively project energy savings. Examples of such expansion includes COVID, PFAS, and Newborn Screening testing.

Future Plans

5. What planned sustainability initiatives beyond FY22 does your agency have relating to GHG reduction, water use reduction, and waste reduction?

The laboratory plans to complete the replacement of more energy efficient Autoclave equipment to replace failing units. This is anticipated to provide savings in energy and water use. It also plans the replacement of failed refrigerators and freezers to more energy efficient models as necessary. This is anticipated to provide savings in energy use.

DPH plans to conduct a survey of staff to determine the need for electric vehicle charging stations at 410 Capitol Avenue and the DPH Lab. If there is a need, DPH will reach out to DEEP and DAS to determine if there are funds available to install charging stations.

DPH will continue to pursue the proposed effort to establish and install a solar panel array at the state laboratory facility in Rocky Hill. This initiative is intended to facilitate savings in energy use and potentially offset the cost of energy at the state laboratory.