

Energizing Rural Communities Prize



Beaver Island Partnership Plan

Team Name: Beaver Island Smart Energy Team

Project Title: Beaver Island Energy - Clean, Reliable, Sustainable
Beaver Island, MI 49782-0001



Short description

Beaver Island is a remote, rural Island in north Lake Michigan, 32 miles from the Michigan mainland. The Island relies on the mainland for most of its resources, including electricity brought from the mainland via an underwater cable, and fuel shipped across the lake. A 3 megawatt generator on the Island provides back up service. Reliability, cost, safety and fossil fuel use are the primary energy issues. The Beaver Island Smart Energy Team mission is to advance clean, reliable and renewable energy on Beaver Island. Our Post Phase 2 Project will take the first steps in clean energy transition by assessing energy use and waste of key municipal facilities that directly affect the health, safety and economics of the island community; and completing energy efficiency remediation of the targeted facilities. This will provide concrete, short term impacts toward our long range, clean and renewable energy strategies on which we are currently working. We will accomplish this through Phase 2 capacity building of our Team and our facilitating organization; through strengthening new and seasoned partnerships of experts and advisors; obtaining the data and metrics needed for the project; and assuring that opportunities for funding this and future energy transition projects will be secured through research and partner guidance.

Video Link: <https://youtu.be/adydqUiTgSw>

Key Team Members:

Sally Wagoner: Tara's Meadow Board Member, Administrative Assistant; sally.tarasmeadow@gmail.com

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Dick Mulvihill: Beaver Island Association Board President; dick.mulvihill@gmail.com

Partners and Advisors:

St. James Township Trustees and Planning Commissioners, Beaver Island, MI

Peaine Township Trustees and Planning Commissioners, Beaver Island, MI

Beaver Island Association, Beaver Island, MI

Energy Transition Initiative Partnership Project (ETIPP) Community Partner: Island Institute of Maine (Emily Roscoe)

ETIPP Technical Advisors: Pacific Northwest National Laboratory (Marcy Whitfield, Andrea Mengual)

Michigan Technological University, Houghton, MI: Dr. Chelsea Schelly, Energy Policy and Sustainable Communities

Michigan Technological University: Jay Meldrum, Executive Director of Traverse City, MI, Research Center

University of Michigan: Naval & Marine Engineering Department, Professor Lei Zuo, Wave Energy Research