

Advancing Clean Energy in Underserved Communities

Providing a clear pathway to clean energy through assessment, engagement and deployment within our schools, municipalities and local businesses across western Maine Communities.



- The Center for an Ecology-Based Economy was founded in Norway, Maine in 2013. Through over a decade of work, we developed a dedicated following in rural western Maine and engage our communities in addressing the climate emergency.
- We are using software tools and assessment techniques to understand fundamental aspects of a clean energy transition to prioritise initial steps for the school district to save money and stabilize its ever-increasing energy costs, while also increasing energy efficiency.
- This project will specifically focus on the western Maine Foothills, communities located in Norway, South Paris, Buckfield, Harrison, Hebron, Greenwood, Otisfield, Oxford, West Paris, Sumner, and Waterford.
- Geographically covering this area MSAD 17 is one of the largest school districts in Maine with significant energy burden; the District school buses travel more than 3300 miles every day, or 600,000 miles a year.

The SOLVE IT prize will enable the CEBE team to not only further support the school district but also expand its reach across multiple western foothill communities. This vital work will provide clear pathways for these underserved communities to better understand their energy use, weaknesses and future clean energy technology options.

