

Green Communities Overview

Many local governments lack information, expertise and resources to create and implement effective plans for setting greenhouse gas (GHG) emission-reduction targets. The Green Communities Program provides training, data and tools to local governments to help them achieve greenhouse gas reduction goals through PG&E's energy efficiency programs.

GHG Inventory Assistance: PG&E is working with several regional Non-Government Organizations to provide intern assistance to local governments over the next 2.5 years to help them develop GHG inventories for their municipal operations and community-wide emissions. To date, our partners have completed GHG inventories for 68 local governments, and we are initiating contracts to prepare a second wave of inventories. We also provide benchmarking training.

GHG Climate Action Plan Assistance: We also have new contracts in place with the Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments and San Mateo, Sonoma, Santa Barbara and Yolo Counties to prepare the energy portions of climate action plans. An additional contract with San Luis Obispo County is expected to be signed in November, and we are exploring opportunities to assist more counties. PG&E is also working with a limited number of local governments on a pilot basis to develop integrated energy solutions and recommendations on how PG&E's programs can help governments meet GHG/sustainable energy targets. This level of analysis/support requires a commitment of PG&E resources and must be matched by a commitment from the local government receiving these services. Only those local governments that have demonstrated a high level of participation in utility energy programs, have adequate resources and desire to collaborate with PG&E to develop and implement an energy management strategy, are engaged in climate protection/GHG reduction activities with the potential for energy reduction; and provide an opportunity to deliver services and energy savings to large communities or at a regional scale are eligible to receive these services.

GHG Data: We provide cities and counties with their energy usage data to help them complete GHG inventories, set GHG-reduction targets and develop climate action plans. To date, we have provided GHG related data to over 80% of our local governments. Click this link [The Green Communities Program](#) to see samples of the data reports that we provide to local governments.

Statewide Energy Efficiency Collaborative (SEEC): PG&E, SCE, SoCal Gas and SDG&E are funding three non-government organizations (Institute for Local Government, Local Government Commission, and ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability) to provide climate planning education and assistance to local governments. These NGOs provide regional training workshops that instruct local governments how to prepare GHG emissions inventories, set GHG reduction targets and develop climate action plans. Tools such as sample climate action plans, best practice case studies, and webinars are made available at no cost to local governments. SEEC also provides statewide and regional energy planning workshops and local government recognition programs (such as the Beacon Award) for GHG-reduction and energy savings.