



INFORMATION ON THE COMPLETED PROJECT CONTRIBUTION AGREEMENT

Community-Scale Bioheat in Nova Scotia

The Federation of Nova Scotia Woodland Owners is working on promoting the use of wood-based biofuel as a renewable method to heat Nova Scotian homes. Community-wide district energy (DE) systems, fueled by wood-based biofuel, can warm multiple buildings in a community and reduce the greenhouse gas emissions associated with imported heating oil.

PROJECT TITLE

Community-Scale Bioheat in Nova Scotia: Public Perceptions, Socio-Economic and Environmental Impacts, and Woodland Management Opportunities

ORGANIZATION

Federation of Nova Scotia Woodland Owners

CONTACT

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START DATE

April 1, 2020

END DATE

March 31, 2023

COLLABORATORS

Heat Academy
Svebio

Wood-based biofuel has the potential to be the foundation of a reimagined forest industry in Nova Scotia. Establishing community-level bioenergy presents a promising means to confronting the economic hardship caused by the closure of Northern Pulp. Additionally, the biofuel production market can empower private woodlot owners to support resilient forest practices by becoming fuel suppliers.

Unfortunately, wood-based biofuel is not generally considered to be a viable renewable energy option by most municipalities or the general public. The Federation of Nova Scotia Woodland Owners' multidisciplinary team aims to better understand and address public perceptions surrounding community-scale biofuel heating in Nova Scotia.

The Federation of Nova Scotia Woodland Owners' new developments have been concentrated on the research and promotion of community-scale bioenergy and its facilitation. The organization started by hiring well-known researchers in the bioenergy sector, then producing a promotional and educational video. The researchers have been able to contact interested stakeholders across Nova Scotia through meetings and interviews, informing them about wood-based biofuel and district energy.

To better explain biofuel's viability, the Federation of Nova Scotia Woodland Owners will rely on international examples and partnerships. The Heat Academy, an international developer of greener heating education, has helped in the production of the Federation's video in collaboration with Svebio, a Swedish bioenergy association.

This project aims to better understand and address public perception surrounding community-scale wood-based bioenergy in Nova Scotia to lead to more efficient energy for the province's communities.