



## Ulster County 2021 Climate Smart Communities Recertification Documentation

### PE1 Action: National/Regional Climate Program

**Background:** Ulster County continues to actively engage in various national, regional, and local programs and initiatives focused on adapting to climate change and reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

The County included participation in the Environmental Protection Agency's Green Power Partnership Program as documentation for this action as part of the County's initial CSC certification application in 2016. In addition to continued participation in that national program, the County is now actively participating in several other relevant national and regional programs. These include: ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability membership and TEMPERATE software license purchase (to support local climate adaptation planning); Climate Reality Project's County Climate Coalition and *100% Committed* campaign; and NYSERDA's Clean Energy Communities Program.

**Documentation:** \*Items with asterisk are included in documentation packet

- EPA Green Power Partnership
  - Map: <https://www.epa.gov/greenpower/green-power-partner-map>
  - \*Ulster County report: <https://www.epa.gov/greenpower/green-power-partner-list#UlsterCountyNY>
- ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability
  - \*Local Government Members & Regional and Higher Education Affiliates: <https://icleiusa.org/membership/>
  - \*ICLEI Annual Membership Dues invoiced dated March 13, 2020
- Climate Reality Project
  - County Climate Coalition: Ulster County was the first County in New York State and the twentieth in the U.S. to formally commit to upholding the goals of the 2015 United Nations Paris Climate Accord in March 2019
    - About: <https://climaterealityproject.org/climatecoalition>
    - \*Press Release
  - *100% Committed* campaign: Ulster County signed the *100% Committed* Pledge in March 2018
    - About: <https://climaterealityproject.org/initiative/100-committed>
    - \**100% Committed* letter to Ulster County, dated March 2018
- NYSERDA's Clean Energy Communities (CEC) Program
  - Ulster County achieved CEC designation in February 2017 by completing four High Impact Action items: Energize NY Finance, CSC certification, Clean Fleets, and Benchmarking – Municipal Buildings
  - The County completed a fifth High Impact Action item - Clean Energy Upgrades - in November 2020
  - \*CEC designation map: <https://www.nyserdera.ny.gov/All-Programs/Programs/Clean-Energy-Communities/CEC-Map>

## EPA Green Power Partnership Report

Retrieved from

<https://www.epa.gov/greenpower/green-power-partner-list#UlsterCountyNY>

12/22/2020

epa.gov/greenpower/green-power-partner-list#UlsterCountyNY

An official website of the United States government.

# Ulster County, NY

Location	Kingston, NY
Industry	Govt. (Local, Municipal)
Organization-Wide Partner?	Yes
Total Green Power Usage (kWh/year)	11,620,000
Utility Green Power (kWh/year)	2,798,000
Unbundled Renewable Energy Certificates (kWh/year)	7,000,000
Self-Supply (kWh/year)	30,000
Physical Power Purchase Agreement (kWh/year)	1,792,000
Percent Green Power	104%
Providers (listed in descending order by kWh supplied to Partner)	3Degrees°, Constellation°, NextEra Energy Resources, Self-supply
Award/Recognition	Green Power Purchasing 2015
Reporting Period	1/1/2019 - 12/31/2019
Latest Report Received On	7/31/2020
Website	<a href="https://ulstercountyny.gov/environment/sustainability-energy/renewable-energy">https://ulstercountyny.gov/environment/sustainability-energy/renewable-energy</a>
Profile	Ulster County has sought ways to substantially reduce the environmental footprint and increase the sustainability of our County government operations. Ulster County's commitment to energy conservation, efficiency, renewable energy generation as well as purchasing renewable energy and offsetting over 100% of all direct and indirect carbon emissions has resulted in the first Carbon Neutral county government. The County has been purchasing renewable energy certificates (RECs) to cover 100% of our annual usage since 2014.

# Yearly Reporting Form



## Green Power Partnership Yearly Reporting Form

This Yearly Report form contains the information EPA currently has on your organization. Please make changes or updates, save the file, and return to your account manager, Anthony Amato, at your earliest convenience. Anthony Amato's email address is [anthony.amato@erg.com](mailto:anthony.amato@erg.com).

All fields are required unless noted otherwise.

### Contact Information

	Primary Contact	Public Relations Contact (Optional)
Salutation	Ms.	Ms.
Contact Name	Amanda LaValle	Evelyn Wright
Title	Coordinator, Ulster County Department of the Environment	Deputy County Executive
Street Address	PO Box 1800	PO Box 1800
City/State/Zip	Kingston, NY 12402	Kingston, NY 12402
Email Address	<a href="mailto:alav@co.ulster.ny.us">alav@co.ulster.ny.us</a>	<a href="mailto:ewri@co.ulster.ny.us">ewri@co.ulster.ny.us</a>
Phone Number	(845) 338-7287	(845) 340-3633

### Organizational Information

Partner Name	Ulster County, NY
Street Address of Partnering Entity (e.g. Headquarters)	244 Fair St.
City/State/Zip of Partnering Entity	Kingston, NY 12401
Website Link	<a href="http://ulstercountyny.gov/">http://ulstercountyny.gov/</a>
Green Power Related Web Page (e.g. environmental or sustainability page) <i>Optional</i>	<a href="https://ulstercountyny.gov/environment/sustainability-energy/renewable-energy">https://ulstercountyny.gov/environment/sustainability-energy/renewable-energy</a>
Industry (select from picklist)	Govt. (Local, Municipal)

**Reporting Period:** The electricity and green power information contained in this report covers the following 12-month period. Partners may choose to report most recent calendar year, fiscal year, other 12-month period, or forward-looking data.

Reporting Period Start Date (mm/dd/yyyy)	1/1/2019
Reporting Period End Date (mm/dd/yyyy)	12/31/2019

### Organizational Electricity Use

Electricity Use (kWh/yr)	11,205,871
Scope of Reported Electricity Use (select from picklist)	All owned and/or leased U.S. facilities
Please Identify Reporting Facility or Group of Facilities (only if "Single Facility or Subset" is selected above)	

### Motivating Factors (Optional): Check the motivating factors behind your green power use (check all that apply)

- |  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Brand or product differentiation                | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EPA recognition           | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reduce emissions footprint                  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cost stability or savings            | <input type="checkbox"/> LEED certification                   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Support economic development & job creation |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Demonstrate environmental leadership | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Meet sustainability goals | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Support renewable energy development        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other   |   |   |

(If other, please specify):

## Retail Supply Options

Please populate the fields below with your green power purchase information corresponding to the reporting period indicated on the "Contact & Organizational Info" tab (1/1/2019 - 12/31/2019). If you are making multiple green power purchases, list each purchase on a separate row. Depending on the Supply Option Type you choose, some cells may be shaded, indicating that you should not enter information into those cells.

For more information on how EPA defines Supply Option Types, click either of the question mark icons or visit:

<https://www.epa.gov/greenpower/green-power-supply-options>

Enter each procurement on a separate row.

Total kWh: 9,798,000 Product's Resource Mix (should total 100%)

	Supply Option Type	Green Power Provider	Product Name <i>Optional</i>	Green Power Purchase (kWh/year)	Bio-gas (%)	Bio-mass (%)	Geo-thermal (%)	Hydro (%)	Solar (%)	Wind (%)	Unknown (%)	Total (%)	Contracted Delivery Begin Date (mm/dd/yyyy)	Contracted Delivery End Date (mm/dd/yyyy)	REC Generation Date (QX-20XX) <i>Optional</i>	RECs Cover From (mm/dd/yy)	REC Cover To (mm/dd/yy)	3rd Party Certified?	Note <i>Optional</i>	
1	Unbundled RECs	3Degrees	Green-e U.S. Green Power - 2019	7,000,000		100						100					1/1/2019	12/31/2019	Green-e	
2	Utility Product	Constellation	Green-e NewMix 2019 50% green	2,798,000						100		100	1/1/2019	12/31/2019					Green-e	
3																				
4																				
5																				
6																				
7																				
8																				
9																				
10																				
11																				
12																				
13																				
14																				
15																				
16																				
17																				
18																				
19																				
20																				
21																				
22																				
23																				
24																				
25																				

Project-Specific Supply Options

Please populate the fields below with your green power purchase information corresponding to the reporting period indicated on the "Contact & Organizational Info" tab (1/1/2019 - 12/31/2019). If you are making multiple green power procurements, list each procurement on a separate row. Depending on the Supply Option Type you choose, some cells may be shaded, indicating that you should not enter information into those cells.

For more information on how EPA defines Supply Option Types, click either of the question mark icons or visit: <https://www.epa.gov/greenpower/green-power-supply-options>

Enter each procurement on a separate row.						Total kWh:		1,822,000				To determine coordinates use: <a href="#">MacQuest Latitude / Longitude Finder</a>			
Supply Option Type	Green Power Provider or Project Owner	Product Name <i>Optional</i>	Renewable Resource Type	Renewable Generation Technology	Green Power Use (kWh/year)	Contracted Delivery Begin Date (mm/dd/yyyy)	Contracted Delivery End Date (mm/dd/yyyy)	Rated Capacity (kW) of Project/Offtake	Year Project Installed or Developed	3rd Party Certified?	Project Name	Project Location (Onsite / Offsite)	Latitude of Project	Longitude of Project	Note <i>Optional</i>
Physical PPA	NextEra Energy Resources		Solar	Solar PV - Ground-mounted	1,792,000	5/10/2018	5/9/2038	1,900	2018	Not Certified	Ulster Landfill Solar Project	On-site	41.961756	-73.981543	
Self-Supply			Solar	Solar PV - Rooftop	30,000			31	2010		UC New Paltz Highway Substation	On-site	41.724677	-74.125674	

## Partner Profile (Optional)

All Green Power Partners have the opportunity to have a Partner Profile on the Partnership's website. The Partner Profile is a short paragraph (200 word limit) that briefly describes a Partner's organization, its decision to use green power, its experience to date with green power, and may include a quote about the benefits of green power to the organization. (Please include the name and title of the person the quote is attributed to.) You may revise your existing Partner Profile below.

### Current Profile for Your Organization:

Ulster County has sought ways to substantially reduce the environmental footprint and increase the sustainability of our County government operations. Ulster County's commitment to energy conservation, efficiency, renewable energy generation as well as purchasing renewable energy and offsetting over 100% of all direct and indirect carbon emissions has resulted in the first Carbon Neutral county government. The County has been purchasing renewable energy certificates (RECs) to cover 100% of our annual usage since 2014.

You can find your current profile at: <https://www.epa.gov/greenpower/green-power-partner-list#UlsterCountyNY>

Thousand Oaks, CA

Tompkins County, NY

Travis County, TX

Ulster County, NY

Union City, CA

University of Northern Iowa

Urbana, IL

Vancouver, WA

Ventura County, CA

1536 Wynkoop Street #901  
Denver, CO 80202  
202-800-0301  
kale.roberts@iclei.org  
www.icleiusa.org

# Invoice

**BILL TO**

Ulster County, NY  
244 Fair St  
PO Box 1800  
Kingston, NY 12401

INVOICE #	DATE	TOTAL DUE	DUE DATE		ENCLOSED
1815	03/13/2020	\$1,750.00	03/31/2020		

**MEMBER PERIOD**

04/01/2020 - 03/31/2021

DESCRIPTION	ITEM	AMOUNT
Annual Member Dues for population 100,000 - 200,000	<b>Dues - pop. 100,001 - 200,000</b>	1,750.00

Choose your payment option above or send paper checks to:  
ICLEI - Local Governments for Sustainability, USA  
1536 Wynkoop St. Suite 901 Denver, CO 80202

**BALANCE DUE**

**\$1,750.00**

For questions, please contact Kale Roberts, Program Officer at kale.roberts@iclei.org or 845-464-3682. ICLEI Membership Services:

(toll-free) 1-855-504-8097 or iclei-usa@iclei.org

No refunds of membership fees shall be granted as a result of resignation



## OUR STATEMENT ON RACIAL JUSTICE →

## COUNTIES THAT HAVE JOINED THE COALITION

SANTA CLARA COUNTY, CALIFORNIA • CHARLES COUNTY, MARYLAND • SAN MIGUEL COUNTY, COLORADO • GILPIN COUNTY, COLORADO • SAN MATEO COUNTY, CALIFORNIA • SUMMIT COUNTY, UTAH • CONTRA COSTA COUNTY, CALIFORNIA • ESSEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY • MARIN COUNTY, CALIFORNIA • ALAMEDA COUNTY, CALIFORNIA • SANTA BARBARA COUNTY, CALIFORNIA • TAOS COUNTY, NM • HUMBOLDT COUNTY, CA • WASHTENAW COUNTY, MI • UNION COUNTY, NJ • PIMA COUNTY, AZ • DENVER COUNTY, CO • ULSTER COUNTY, NY • BOULDER COUNTY, CO • LOS ANGELES COUNTY, CA • LAKE COUNTY, IL • MAUI COUNTY, HI • ALBANY COUNTY, NY • EAGLE COUNTY, CO • JOHNSON COUNTY, IA • CLARK COUNTY, NV • NEW CASTLE COUNTY, DE • CUYAHOGA COUNTY, OH • DANE COUNTY, WI • WESTCHESTER COUNTY, NY • MISSOULA COUNTY, MT •

THE LIST IS GROWING. ...

## SUPPORTERS



## NEWS FROM Ulster County

— Acting County Executive Adele B. Reiter —

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: March 29, 2019**

**Contact: [exec@co.ulster.ny.us](mailto:exec@co.ulster.ny.us)**

**845.340.3800**

### **ACTING COUNTY EXECUTIVE ADELE B. REITER REAFFIRMS AND EXPANDS ULSTER COUNTY'S COMMITMENT TO ENVIRONMENTAL LEADERSHIP**

*Ulster Becomes First County in New York State and Twentieth in the U.S. To Formally Commit to Upholding the Goals of the 2015 United Nations Paris Climate Accord*

**KINGSTON, N.Y.** – In keeping with Ulster County's longstanding commitment to environmental leadership, Acting County Executive Adele B. Reiter today announced that Ulster County has joined The Climate Reality Project's County Climate Coalition, formally affirming its commitment to the 2015 United Nations Paris Climate Agreement. Members of the County Climate Coalition are required to implement results-oriented measures to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Ulster County is the first of New York State's sixty-two counties to formalize its commitment to the Paris Agreement by joining the County Climate Coalition.

"Ulster County is considered one of the greenest county governments in the nation for good reason," said **Acting County Executive Adele B. Reiter**. "Over the course of the past ten years, under the visionary leadership of our former County Executive Mike Hein, we proudly championed efforts to protect our county's breathtaking environmental resources because all residents want and deserve clean air and water. I am proud to expand our County's commitment to environmental protection and reaffirm our leadership position by joining with nineteen other counties across the U.S. to pledge our commitment to combating climate change. I firmly believe that here in Ulster County we can demonstrate for other communities throughout the nation how protecting our environment and promoting prosperity for our residents can indeed go hand-in-hand."

In 2014, former County Executive Mike Hein issued an Executive Order establishing Ulster County as the first County government in New York State to purchase 100% of its electricity from renewable resources. Two years later, in 2016, Ulster County became the first to operate on a carbon-neutral basis; it remains the only county in New York State to do so. Ulster County formalized its commitments to renewable energy by joining the Climate Reality Project's 100% Committed campaign in March 2018 and by completing a new 1.9 Megawatt solar generation facility atop a former landfill in the Town of Ulster last June. That facility now provides 20% of the electricity consumed by County operations.

“Ulster County continues to lead the state in environmental and renewable energy initiatives,” said **Amanda LaValle, Director of the Ulster County Department of the Environment**. “We purchase renewable energy for all our electricity, have our own utility scale solar project on the former Ulster landfill, and operate a net carbon neutral county government operation. It is only fitting that we continue to lead by example and become the first New York County in the Climate Reality Project’s County Climate Coalition.”

“We’re excited that Ulster County is joining the County Climate Coalition, especially as the first county to do so from New York,” said **Natalie Negrelli, Campaign Organizer at The Climate Reality Project**. “By making a commitment to reducing greenhouse gas emissions, counties in the County Climate Coalition can come together to be a collective voice in urging the federal government to address the climate crisis. Ulster County is leading their region in climate initiatives, including the transition to 100% renewable energy, and we look forward to Ulster County being a resource and example for other members as they work towards local climate action”

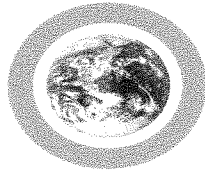
“Climate Reality Hudson Valley Chapter is thrilled that Ulster County has joined the County Climate Coalition,” said **Tim Guinee, Marletown resident, actor and leader in former Vice President Al Gore’s Climate Reality Project**. “How befitting that our environmentally progressive county is the first county in all of New York State to join in! The leadership shown by Mike Hein and Adele Reiter will not only benefit the environment but help further push Ulster County towards economic prosperity. The Climate Crisis is the most pressing issue of our time and Ulster County is showing real leadership in confronting it.”

###

Attachment: Photo: Acting Ulster County Executive Adele B. Reiter and Amanda LaValle, Director of the Department of the Environment stand beside a battery-electric vehicle, which is part of the County’s growing fleet of 28 electric and hybrid-electric vehicles.



## **Acting County Executive Adele Reiter Reaffirms And Expands Ulster County's Commitment To Environmental Leadership**



# The Climate Reality Project®

HUDSON VALLEY AND CATSKILLS, NY CHAPTER

March 18, 2018

Dear Mr. Hein;

On behalf of the Climate Reality Project, the Climate Reality Hudson Valley and Catskills, New York Chapter would like to extend our sincere thanks to Ulster County for joining the 100% Committed Campaign.

By embracing the goal of using 100% renewable electricity by 2030, Ulster County joins businesses, towns, cities, colleges and universities across the nation who have also taken the pledge.

Your commitment shows real leadership and is in line with the Ulster County government's core goal of being of service to its community.

Further, the step you have taken, in concert with other forward-thinking communities across the United States, is exactly what is needed to move our nation to make the transition to the renewable energy economy.

The threat of climate change is real and it's worsening affects are upon us. Actions, such as those taken by Ulster County raise a flag of hope.

You have the sincere thanks of the Climate Reality Project.

Gratefully yours,

Tim Guinee

Chair – The Climate Reality Hudson Valley & Catskills, NY Chapter



[BACK TO CLEAN ENERGY COMMUNITIES PROGRAM](#)

# Designated Clean Energy Communities Map

The communities highlighted on this map are demonstrating their commitment to clean energy by participating in the Clean Energy Communities Program. A community must complete at least four High Impact Actions to earn the Clean Energy Communities designation.

[View Data Table](#)

74

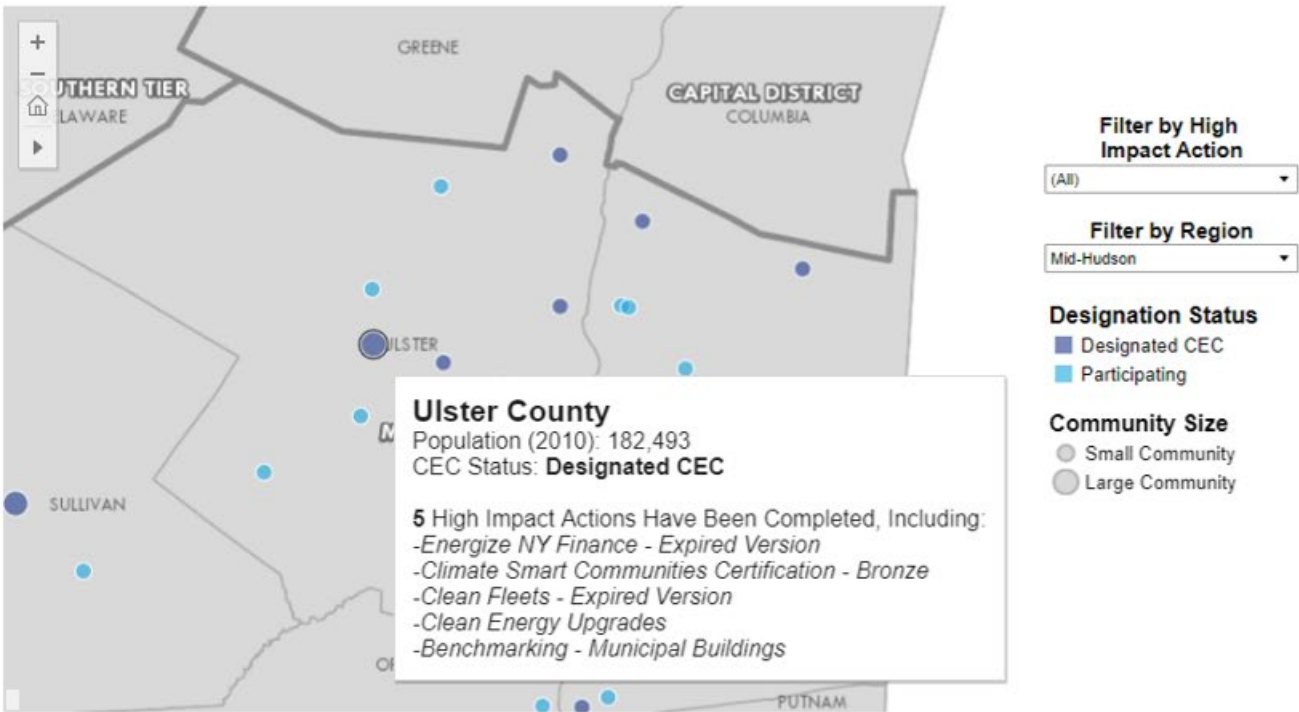
Participating Communities

43

Designated Communities

268

Actions Completed



To display the actions that a specific community has completed, hover your cursor over the circle icon for that community. Display all communities that have completed a particular action by using the "Filter by High-Impact Actions" buttons. In the legend, click on the "Designation Status" icons to display only the communities that have earned the Clean Energy Community designation ("Designated CEC"), or those communities that have completed at least one high-impact action under the program ("Participating Communities"). You can click on the "Community Size" icons to display only the communities that have over 40,000 population ("Large Communities") or that have a population of 39,999 or less ("Small Communities").

**NYSERDA Designated CECs Map**  
Retrieved from  
<https://www.nyserda.ny.gov/All-Programs/Programs/Clean-Energy-Communities/CEC-Map>  
12/22/2020

## PE1 Action: National/Regional Climate Program

3 Points

### A. Why is this action important?

In addition to participating in the Climate Smart Communities (CSC) program, local governments may choose to be involved in other climate programs that offer access to a broader network or a different set of resources. Joining a national or regional campaign allows a local government to further demonstrate its commitment to climate action, share best practices, learn from others, and receive direct technical assistance, as applicable.

### B. How to implement this action

Research regional, state, and national energy and climate campaigns that provide a platform for the local government to obtain resources to help further its energy and climate goals. Resources can include peer-to-peer support, tools, sample policies, guidance documents, etc.

### C. Time frame, project costs, and resource needs

Local government staff should spend no more than a few hours researching campaigns, obtaining approval to join them from their manager (if necessary), and subscribing to the campaigns. Costs and resource needs are dependent on the program; some require membership fees and detailed reporting. Staff time will also depend on the program.

### D. Which local governments implement this action? Which departments within the local government are most likely to have responsibility for this?

This action is applicable to all local governments. Typically, this task is led by the CSC coordinator.

### E. How to obtain points for this action

Join another regional or national campaign with a demonstrated commitment to reduction of greenhouse gas emissions and adaptation to effects of climate change. Possible campaigns or programs include, but are not limited to, the following:

#### Examples of National Programs

- [Under2 Coalition MOU](#)
- [The Global Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy \(also called the Compact of Mayors in the U.S.\)](#)
- [ICLEI-Local Governments for Sustainability USA](#)
- [The Climate Registry](#)

#### Examples of Regional Programs

- [NYSERDA Clean Energy Communities](#)
- [Sustainable Westchester](#)

### F. What to submit

Provide a list of campaigns or programs joined and demonstration of the local government's active engagement within the past year. Documentation may include membership invoices, summary of services obtained, report on progress of actions

related to campaign, presentations or materials used or delivered to and from the campaign.

If the campaign or program is not included in the above list, provide a description of how the campaign supports local climate efforts. Campaigns that deny consensus climate science or advocate maladaptive responses to climate change are not eligible.

All action documentation is available for public viewing after an action is approved. Action submittals should not include any information or documents that are not intended to be viewed by the public.

#### **G. Links to additional resources or best practices**

- Links for relevant campaigns and programs are provided above.
- [A Cities' Guide to Carbon Reduction Coalitions](#): This is a blog post from the Great Plains Institute that describes the elements of the most prominent climate change mitigation coalitions and provides guidance on determining which might be best for different types of local governments.

#### **H. Recertification requirements**

The recertification requirements are the same as the initial certification requirements.