

GHG Grant

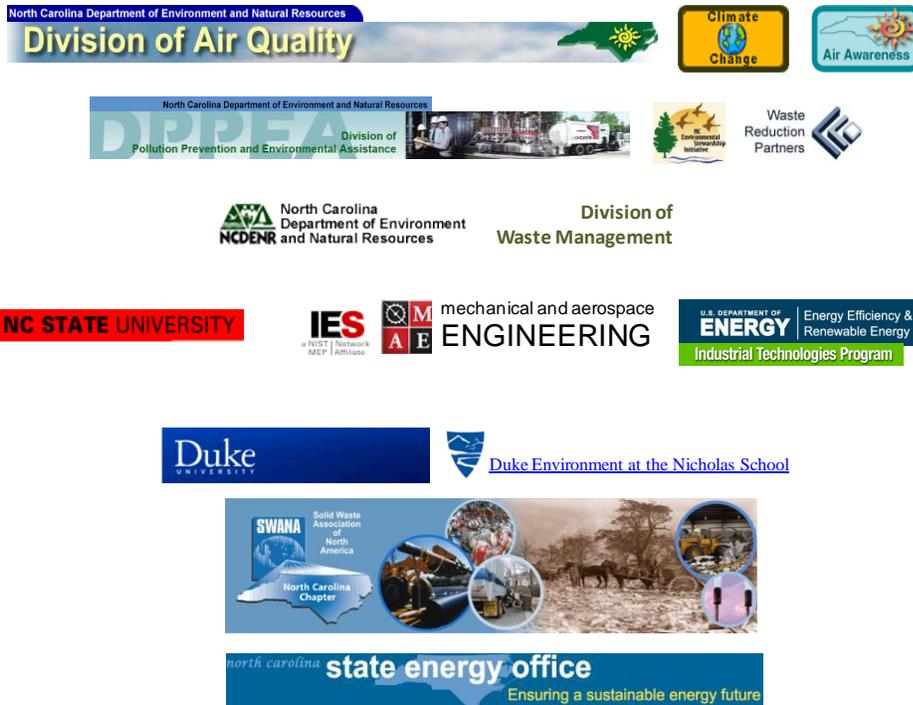
Project Summary and Timeline

The North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) – Division of Air Quality (DAQ) has been awarded a grant by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to establish a Climate Awareness program that meets the growing need for environmental education related to greenhouse gas (GHG) emission calculations and emissions reporting. Under the project, technical assistance will be provided to plant managers, facility operators, and company officials about the interdependency between GHG emissions, energy consumption, and energy costs, and encourage voluntary actions to reduce emissions that result in additional environmental and financial benefits.

The DAQ has assembled a team of established organizations currently managing programs related to climate change and energy to accomplish two project objectives:

1. Assist NC facilities in identifying their sources of GHG emissions and get a better understanding of the requirements of the federal GHG Reporting Program and the state voluntary GHG reporting program.
2. Assist NC facilities in interpreting their emissions data and identify and implement GHG reduction strategies that also reduce fuel usage and energy costs.

The project will be led by the DAQ and supported by the following organizations and their programs.



Project Team

Through a coordinated effort, each organization plans to integrate the activities outlined below to maximize the resources available in their existing programs and take advantage of the stakeholder groups and industry representatives participating in various state-funded and federally funded programs. The types of facilities addressed include landfills (small to large), government operations, manufacturing facilities, chemical processing industries, power plants, and other small to large industries. Many of these businesses do not have access to technical information or expertise needed to comply with the federal reporting requirements. They also do not know how to identify sources, calculate GHG emissions, or evaluate alternative technologies to reduce/eliminate use of fossil fuels. Many are not aware that reducing GHGs can also reduce operational costs, therefore, making mitigation strategies win-win options for the environment and businesses. This project addresses this need.

Specific activities to be performed under this project are listed below:

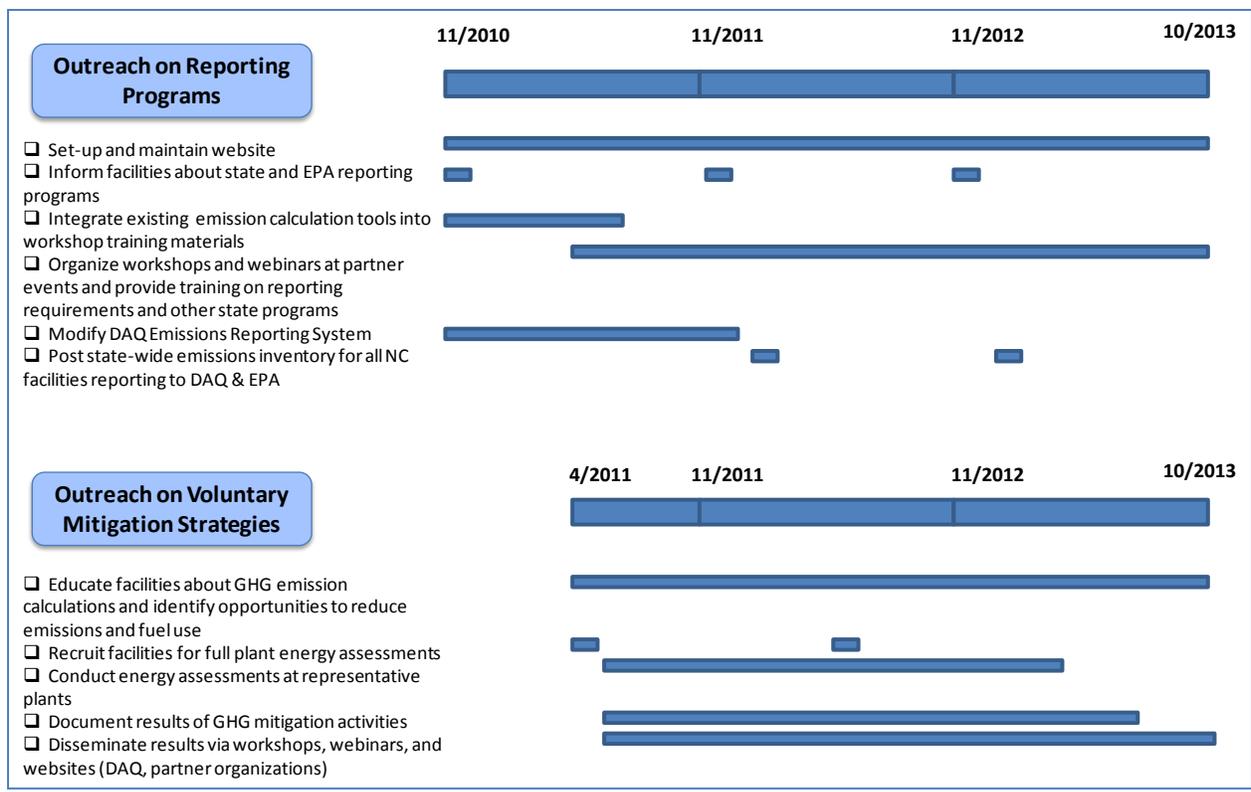
1. Communication and Outreach on Reporting Programs

- Provide technical assistance to facilities with active air permits determine their applicability to the EPA GHG Reporting Program.
- Encourage remaining facilities voluntarily report GHG emissions to the DAQ at the same time criteria air pollutants and hazardous air pollutants are reported.
- Use existing DAQ and EPA tools and resources to assist facilities meet their reporting requirements. Provide access to all available tools via program website.
- Hold workshops and webinars to train the reporting community about GHG emission calculations.

2. Outreach on Emission Reduction Strategies

- Assist facilities in identifying all sources of GHG emissions (permitted and unpermitted) and provide advice on opportunities to reduce emissions.
- Assist facilities in analyzing their data and identifying mitigation measures that provide energy savings, cost savings, and environmental benefits.
- Conduct energy assessments at a representative population of facilities. Document emissions reduced, energy saved, and cost savings from implementation of energy conservation measures and process efficiency improvements at select sites.
- Document and disseminate results via workshops, webinars, training sessions, and/or website postings to encourage implementation by other facilities.

The project was initiated in April 2011 and will end on September 30, 2013. The figure below illustrates approximate duration of key activities.



The two outcomes expected to be achieved are:

- (1) increased understanding among affected facilities of how state reporting requirements compare with federal requirements, and
- (2) enhanced understanding by state policy makers and ability of industrial facilities to reduce GHG emissions based on the data gathered.

The total project budget cost is \$512,875, of which \$154,000 is contributed as voluntary cost sharing from partner organizations. Total EPA award amount is \$358,875.

NC DAQ CONTACTS

Paula Hemmer
 919-707-8708
paula.hemmer@ncdenr.gov

Yin-Pong George Chang, P.E.
 919-707-8706
yin-pong.chang@ncdenr.gov