# ENERGY SPOTLIGHT

ENERGY OFFICE



## The 2022 Mini-Grant Program provided funding for eight high-impact demonstration projects.

The Energy Office, a department of the South Carolina Office of Regulatory Staff, awards mini-grants each year to fund high-impact demonstration projects in the areas of energy efficiency, renewable energy, and clean transportation. Applications for the highly competitive grant program are judged based on several factors including their expected energy savings and payback period, visibility of the project, and educational and/or demonstrational value. Funding for the Mini-Grant Program is provided through the US Department of Energy.

### 2022 Mini-Grant Projects

With 2022 funding, the Energy Office awarded over $65,700 in mini-grants to Beaufort County, the City of Rock Hill, Florence County School District Three, Lugoff Fire Department, the Montessori School of Columbia, the South Carolina Department of Agriculture, the Town of Clover, and Trident Technical College.

### Savings

Collectively, the eight projects are anticipated to annually save over $25,000 in energy costs and over 1,900 million British thermal units (MMBtus) of energy. Over the expected lifetime of the purchased equipment, the projects are anticipated to save over $362,000 in energy costs and over 28,000 MMBtus of energy. The energy savings are equivalent to the electricity used to power over 700 homes for a year. Additionally, the energy savings result in over 4,900 metric tons of greenhouse gases abated over the lifetime of the projects, which is equivalent to emissions from over 1,000 passenger vehicles driven for one year.

### 2022 Mini-Grant Recipients

- Beaufort County
- City of Rock Hill
- Florence County School District Three
- Lugoff Fire Department
- Montessori School of Columia
- South Carolina Department of Agriculture
- Town of Clover
- Trident Technical College

### Anticipated Lifetime Savings

- $362,745 in energy costs
- 28,155 MMBtus of energy—equivalent to the electricity used to power over 700 homes for over a year

More information on the Mini-Grant Program is available at: www.ENERGY.SC.GOV/incentives/grants.

*Town of Clover*

## Beaufort County

Beaufort County purchased an electric utility task vehicle (UTV) for use in the Beaufort Solid Waste & Recycling department's litter control program. The electric UTV replaced an existing gas powered UTV that is used in litter patrols, and the new UTV is branded with signage to promote electric vehicles. It will offset approximately 1,200 miles worth of gasoline-powered vehicle emissions per year.


## City of Rock Hill

The City of Rock Hill installed two level-two electric vehicle (EV) charging stations, which replaced two older charging units that were no longer functioning properly. The chargers are in a public parking lot located near a high traffic area close to I-77 and the popular Riverwalk district. Annually, the chargers are estimated to provide the power for EV's to drive over 22,000 miles.

## Florence County School District Three

Florence County School District Three replaced 157 exterior wall mounted high pressure sodium light fixtures with light-emitting diode (LED) fixtures across eight schools located in Coward, Lake City, and Olanta. The project not only resulted in energy savings for the District, but also improved safety of school grounds due to the increase in lighting quality. Due to the high wattage of the previously existing high pressure sodium fixtures, the project had estimated savings of over 94,000 kilowatt-hours (kWh) per year with a simple payback period of less than two years.


## Lugoff Fire Department

Lugoff Fire Department retrofitted or replaced over 100 fluorescent and metal halide fixtures with LED bulbs and fixtures in their headquarters station. As the station operates 24 hours a day, seven days a week, the project was a significant savings opportunity for the Department. The project had estimated savings of over 49,000 kWh per year with a simple payback period of less than four years.

## Montessori School of Columbia

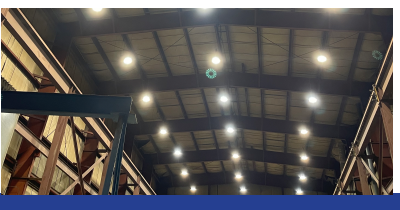
The Montessori School of Columbia installed an 8.16 kilowatt (kW) solar photovoltaic system on their Learning Lab building. This building was recently constructed prior to the project, and it is the School's goal to achieve a "net zero building"; meaning the facility produces at least as much energy as it uses. The solar system is expected to produce over 11,700 kWh annually.

## South Carolina Department of Agriculture

The South Carolina Department of Agriculture installed two level-two EV charging stations at the Pee Dee Farmer's Market in Florence. With more than 175,000 vehicles and 400,000 visitors to the market annually, the charging stations are highly visible to the public. Annually, the chargers are estimated to provide the power for electric vehicles to drive over 28,000 miles.


## Town of Clover

The Town of Clover retrofitted over 60 fluorescent fixtures with LED bulbs at the Clover Community Center. The Community Center houses Clover's Park and Recreation offices and Town Council Chambers, as well as public attractions including the Clover Horseshoe Hall of Fame and an art gallery. The project had estimated savings of over 7,000 kWh annually with a simple payback period of less than six years.



## Trident Technical College

Trident Technical College replaced over 70 fluorescent fixtures in their welding lab with LED fixtures. Due to the improved light output of the LED fixtures, only 40 new fixtures were required to achieve the same amount of lighting as the old fluorescent system. The project had estimated savings of over 28,400 kWh annually with a simple payback period of less than five years.


1401 Main Street
Suite 900
Columbia, SC 29201
(803) 737- 0800