

**PY 2002 - 2003 CPUC Energy Efficiency Programs  
Monthly Reports Narrative Template**

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Program Implementer Name:	Alliance to Save Energy
Program Title:	Green School, Green Communities
Program Reference Number:	142-02 PG&E
Month:	February
Period Covered by this Report:	February 1- February 28, 2003
Name of Person Preparing Report:	Merrilee Harrigan

## **Section I. Program Summary**

The Alliance to Save Energy developed the Green Schools Program in 1996 to provide hands-on, real-world education to help students understand energy and its link with the environment and finances; and at the same time to involve students and teachers with facilities staff to save energy in their schools. The program was initiated in response to the need for energy efficiency activities that will engage schools in efficiency activities, and to integrate energy efficiency instruction into classroom activities in a way that provides excellent, project-based learning experiences for students.

### **1. Program Activities**

- **Administrative activities**

Ongoing administrative activities include subcontracts and providing guidance for contractors and local project leaders, facilitating communication between Green Schools and various other efficiency projects in California and nationally, problem-solving with project staff, and reporting and accounting activities. There is also ongoing correspondence with school sites through teachers, custodians, administrators, other school-site staff and students. Local Project Leaders attend Student Advisory Council (SAC) team meetings and provide a high level of support for participants in the program.

We made all the arrangements for a group from our Southern California Green Schools program (comprised of a district representative, high school instructor, student, and former student, now an employee of our contractor, EEPIC) to prepare and make a presentation at the CPUC workshop in San Francisco on February 4, 2003.

- **Marketing and Outreach activities**

Pennycook Elementary School in Vallejo Unified and Hillsdale High School in San Mateo Unified have been actively participating since October 2002. We are still working with San Mateo Unified School District to obtain a signed statement of intent.

We have been doing extensive program outreach to the following seventeen (17) School Districts: Albany, Cotati-Rohnert Park, Dixon, Emery, Los Gatos-Saratoga, Mt. Diablo, Novato, Petaluma, Piedmont, Portola Valley, San Leandro, San Rafael, San Ramon Valley, Santa Rosa City, Tamalpais, Travis, and Vallejo.

- **Direct Implementation Activities**

Identify districts and recruit schools for participation – remaining 7 schools for first year by 2/28/03.

The following is a list of schools and districts, which have submitted applications and signed Statements of Intentions (SOI) required for participation in the Green Schools Program. The next step in the process is to secure representatives from each school to attend the Green Schools Professional Development workshop in March.

Petaluma City School District

1. McDowell Elementary School
2. Valley Vista Elementary School
3. Mary Collins at Cherry Valley Alternative Elementary School
4. Petaluma Junior High School
5. Casa Grande High School
6. Petaluma High School
7. McKinley Elementary School

Vallejo Unified School District

1. Federal Terrace Elementary School

Tamalpais Union School District

1. Tamalpais High School

In addition to the above, Travis Unified School District has signed the SOI and will be working with us to recruit schools into the program. We also have two (2) elementary school sites and two (2) high school sites that are interested and reside in the following districts: Bellevue Union, Mt. Diablo Union, and San Ramon Union School Districts. We are working to secure the districts' participation.

Create Student Advisory Committees (SAC's) and begin regular meetings in selected schools. DUE 3/31/03

Hillsdale working on establishing a Student Advisory Committee, entitled The Energy Council.

Train high school students to become certified energy auditors (original due date 12/31/02 **proposed new date for completion December 2003**).

The only school eligible for the STEM program is Hillsdale High School. After they talked to the Director of the Program, they decided to wait until the Fall 2003. This decision was based on added pressure due to the bad timing involved; the approaching summer break would cause the students to lose interest. In the fall, they will have more time to work with the students, thus having more of an effect on the students.

### Hold Mid-Year Meeting DUE 2/28/03

The mid-year meeting was held February 24, 2:30 – 5:30. During this meeting, experiences/success stories, needs, and resources were shared. Participants planned for the remainder of the school year.

During the mid-year meeting, we heard success stories and challenges from our participating schools. Successes included stories such as the observed behavior changes amongst the staff at Pennycook Elementary School. Team members shared with us how they have noticed that the lights are being turned off now and the heat is being turned down when not in use. The team members were excited over the fact these behavior changes are a direct result from their Green School efforts. However, they have challenges as well. Apparently, the students in their school have been acting out in aggressive manners over the past year or so and as a resolution tactic, their school has created a Peace Group. The teachers involved in Green Schools have needed to devote their time to the Peace Program rather than Green Schools. They are discouraged and feel overwhelmed.

We are excited to be working with Hillsdale High School's champion teacher, Dave Emanuel, who has been very active and devoted to Green Schools. He teaches US History in his school's environmental academy and has found that the Green Schools program fits very nicely with his own curriculum. He shared with us his story of leading his students on a successful field trip to the Pacific Energy Center in San Francisco and how his students are very eager to learn about energy. He has also taken advantage of the resources we offer through the program, such as the tools and guest speakers. He is looking forward to learning how to conduct energy audits with his students through the Green Schools program's offerings. His plan is for his students to be trained in STEM and then take their knowledge home and to the community (as a Student Advisory Council) to make a larger impact. Unfortunately, his district's office (San Mateo) is reluctant to sign the Statement of Intent and we currently risk losing Hillsdale High School as a Green School.

***Deliverables:*** *List of attendees, agenda, evaluation results and school plans.*

### Align Green Schools Materials with the California Secondary School (High School) Exit Exams (CAHSEE) Due 2/28/03.

Leslie Comnes, an Educational Writing Consultant, who has her M.A. in Education from San Francisco State University, under contract with the Alliance, has completed the draft of correlations that will be included with the quarterly report. This document is designed to assist high school teachers in using the Green Schools Program materials to help prepare their students for the California High School Exit Exam.

***Deliverable:*** *Correlations*

### Develop New Materials for Vocational Component:

The Alliance is working with the East San Gabriel Valley Regional Occupational Program/Technical Center to prepare a vocational curriculum on constructing an energy-efficient House. A draft has been completed of this curriculum unit, which incorporates all the components of home construction but with a particular emphasis on energy efficiency in home construction. This curriculum includes not only the technical content but also the information on student hours, testing, and academic requirements that is a necessary component for curriculum to be approved by the California State Department of Education.

The draft will be circulated among industry representatives and efficiency experts for their feedback and input to ensure that the curriculum includes the best and latest information on efficient construction components, materials, and practices.

The draft curriculum will not be sent as an attachment to this report; it will be included in the quarterly report.

### Attend California and National Energy Efficiency and Education Meetings (this will be an ongoing task, as opportunities arise).

The Green Schools Manager, Martha Lake, attended the American Society of Mechanical Engineers Legislative Briefing at the State Capitol. This comprised of a panel of speakers that spoke on the need for funding to strengthen k-12 Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics Partnerships. Our representation was important as a networking opportunity to meet professionals in this field that share a complimentary mission of the Green Schools program in these important education subjects.

***Deliverables:*** *Agenda and brief description of the presentation.*

### Ongoing Program Support

Hillsdale High School took some students to the Pacific Energy Center in San Francisco. After learning how to use some of the tools they have at the Center, the teacher checked them out to use in the school setting.

We met with the Vallejo Green Team. They have announced to the staff about being members of the Green Schools Program and that the Administration has agreed to return 50% of the energy savings realized through no cost changes back to the school. They felt as a result, the teachers are being more conscientious about turning off lights and computers.

### Program Challenges

The biggest challenge we faced this month was getting a response from the districts and schools we contacted. The Administration was focused on planning ways to meet the enormous budget cuts that have been mandated. Some Districts told us they cannot commit teachers because they are not sure which teachers will be around next year. The budget is their primary focus right now.

We risk losing Hillsdale High School, which has been actively engaged since October 2002, due to the District's reluctance to sign the statement of intent. San Mateo Unified School District has told us they can not allot any manpower to the Green Schools program due to budget cuts and therefore, are reluctant to sign the letter of intent. We are in dialogue with them to find a solution to their concern.

B. Deliverables attached:

1. *Mid-year meeting: list of attendees, agenda, evaluation results (attachment 1.1) and school plans (attachment 1.2)*
2. *Agenda and brief description of the presentation at the ASME Legislative Briefing.*

## 2. **Program Expenditures**

Financial information will be submitted in a separate document.

## **Section II. Customer Data**

### **1. Customer Confidential Information**

This report does not include any customer-specific information.

## **Section III. Supporting Documentation**

The Alliance to Save Energy is not requesting monthly payments, therefore all supporting details and documentation will be included in the quarterly report.

## **Section IV. Additional Information**

There are no additional items to be included in this report.