

Municipal Energy Resilience Program (MERP)

Building Energy Resilience Assessments

Assessments are free to municipalities who qualify. These assessments will be provided in coordination with The Vermont Department of Buildings and General Services and your local Regional Planning Commission

Which assessment is right for my community?

Level 1 Assessments: Time Required Approximately 0.5-1.5 hours

Level 1 provides a phased scope of work, estimated costs, timeline for the recommended improvements designed to reduce operations & maintenance costs, enhance comfort and reduce energy intensity.

These may include improvements to the thermal envelope, HVAC systems, and fuel-switching to renewable heating systems. Additional analysis and recommendations for siting of renewables, EV charging and battery storage feasibility are also provided. All recommendations include an estimate of equipment lifecycle costs and consumption data.

Pros

- Shorter duration
- No documents required

Cons

- No blower door testing
- Not applicable for future loans

Level 2 Assessments: Time Required Approximately 4 hours

ASHRAE Level 2 Investment Grade Energy Audits cover all items in a Level 1 assessment in addition to providing blower door testing to measure air leaks. During this test, which can take an hour or more to complete, contractors will close all exterior windows and doors require that traffic in an out of the building be restricted in order to get an

accurate reading. This audit requires the town to provide 5 years of monthly electrical and heating fuel use information, building architectural, mechanical, and electrical drawings.

Pros

- Enhanced savings calculations
- Blower door test included
- Applicable for loans

Cons

- Longer duration
- Additional documentation required

Covered municipalities may apply for either assessment. Both are free and will qualify for a MERP implementation grant. Consult with your RPC or technical support provider for assistance in selecting the right assessment for your municipality!

Visit bgs.vermont.gov/municipal-energy-resilience-program or scan the QR code for more information!

