



Ypsilanti Food Cooperative  
312 N. River Street  
Ypsilanti, Michigan 48198  
734-483-1354  
Grant PSC-08-31

September 1, 2009 through October 31, 2009  
Report by Dave Strenski

### **Complete Task**

|      |  |
|------|--|
| 100% | Expansion of Solar installation at Cooperative |
| 60%  | Installation of Solar panels at City Hall      |
| 80%  | Utility meter reading program                  |
| 80%  | Building of SolarYpsi.com website              |
| 60%  | Solar educational outreach                     |

### **Progress over the past two months**

Progress has been made on the installation of the solar panels on City Hall. On October 5<sup>th</sup>, we had five volunteers convened at City Hall's back parking lot and we started the installation. We rented a 50 foot lift from Delux Rental to help with the installation. We assembled the rack and attached ropes with a block-n-tackle to lift the rack into place. We could lift the rack, but it was too flexible to lift as one piece, so we started by only lifting the center section.

We used a couple of mechanical fasteners to hold the rack in place while we worked on getting it plumb, level, and centered. Then we started drilling the holes for the Hilti HY-150 epoxy anchors. Working with the lift was more tedious than we had predicted and the anchors also took longer to set than we expected. As a result, at the end of the day we only got the center section attached to the building.





We then had a 2 week delay due to rescheduling the volunteers, the lift rental, and some good weather. We were able to work again on October 23. This work day was hampered by the rental company double booking the lift, such that it was not available when we went to pick it up. Several phone calls later, we were able to get the lift at 11:30am instead of our 8:00am start time. We put in a long day and were able to get the other two sections up and some of the triangular pieces. However, at the end of the second day, we still don't have the panels installed.



We are currently looking at the first part of November to schedule a third day to finish the panel installation. We have also contacted the electrician to start working on the interior wiring, to connect the solar panels energy to the building's breaker panel.



More installation pictures are at [www.SolarYpsi.org/index.php?siteDetails=cityhall](http://www.SolarYpsi.org/index.php?siteDetails=cityhall)

During the past two months we gave talks at the Ypsilanti Food Coop during the National Solar Tour with 14 people attending. Hans Steiner gave a solar talk at the local Ypsilanti District Library and had 11 people attend. We also had an article in the local Eastern Michigan University online paper. [www.emich.edu/focus\\_emu/091509/solarypsi.html](http://www.emich.edu/focus_emu/091509/solarypsi.html)

### **Anticipated energy saving**

The Cooperative is now benefiting from the additional solar panels on the roof. We also continue to benefit from monitoring our power usage. With the display system now up and running in the store, we expect this to give even more positive feedback to the employees to conserve energy.

### **Expenditures compared to budget**

Not reported in June were the payments made to SUR Energy for \$13,000. And \$1,493.76 to complete payment for the solar panels.

We spent \$265.00 twice to Delux Rental for the use of the lift on two separate occasions. Miscellaneous hardware for City Hall installation was also spent: \$331.00 to Ace Hardware in June, and materials from Hilti for \$179.22.

**Noteworthy Accomplishments**

Started installing the rack at City Hall.

**Risk to the project**

None at this time.

**Deviations from the Statement of Work**

None.

**Money Spent in the Past Two Months**

Submitted by Dave Strenski and Corinne Sikorski