

**Intern Title:**

Evaluation of Climate Change Mitigation Practices in Region 8 Communities (Colorado, Utah, Wyoming, North Dakota, South Dakota and Montana).

**Project Description:**

This project will assist EPA Region 8 in determining which communities are leading the way in taking actions to mitigate climate change and identify measures EPA could take to better assist their efforts. The intern will work with staff in the Region 8 Brownfield Program to identify communities that have achieved or are pursuing one or more of the following designations:

- Green Power Community
- Star Community
- Solar Friendly City

The intern will then interview officials from the identified communities to determine which if any of the following actions have been undertaken or are under consideration:

- What energy code, if any, has been adopted (e.g. IEC 2015).
- Does the city/town have a climate mitigation plan and/or climate adaptation plan.
- What policies have been adopted to promote renewable energy.
- Whether a PACE (property assessed clean energy) program is in place.
- Whether a solar aggregation program is in place.
- Has a “shared” or “community” renewable energy project been put in place.
- Does the community have any brownfield (contaminated) properties that are suitable for renewable energy projects.
- Other best management practices the community believes are effective.

The intern will then prepare and deliver a presentation to EPA staff highlighting: effective practices, common barriers to implementation, and suggestions for how EPA and other Agencies could lower barriers to implementation and better promote effective mitigation practices in other communities.

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