

Town of Nantucket  
**NANTUCKET MEMORIAL AIRPORT**  
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Nantucket Island, Massachusetts 02554

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*Commissioners*  
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October 23, 2013

Nantucket Memorial Airport is seeking proposals from an Energy Service Company (ESCO) to conduct a comprehensive energy audit for the airport and to identify improvements to save energy.

In November 2012, the Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT) Aeronautics Division and Volpe National Transportation Systems Center (Volpe) initiated a pilot program to create **the first ever airport with “carbon neutral” ground operations in the United States**. Nantucket Memorial Airport was chosen to take all steps necessary to implement that designation.

The Carbon Neutral Airport Pilot Program will assist the Nantucket Airport to implement measures that dramatically reduce fossil fuel consumption and greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. **The program will identify lessons and practices learned to assist other general aviation and large commercial service airports not only in Massachusetts but within the nation.**

In 2010, the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) began work in airport sustainability planning by funding the first Sustainable Airport Master Plan at Ithaca-Tompkins Regional Airport in Ithaca, New York and the first Sustainable Management Plan at Northeast Florida Regional Airport in St. Augustine, Florida. The FAA’s goal is to make sustainability a core objective in all airport planning. Since 2010, the FAA has funded 25 airport sustainability plans across the United States.

Recent meetings with the FAA in Washington DC regarding the Carbon Neutral Airport Pilot Program at Nantucket Airport demonstrated enthusiastic interest in the program. The FAA is most interested in the lessons learned from the implementation phase of the Carbon Neutral Airport Pilot Program at Nantucket Airport which will identify logical next steps in their airport sustainability planning efforts.

In addition to federal sustainability initiatives, the pilot program also supports the MassDOT “GreenDOT” sustainability implementation plan and the 2010 Massachusetts Statewide Airport System Plan, which includes six statewide system goals and more than

50 performance measures designed to help the Aeronautics Division monitor airport performance. Among the six goals the Carbon Neutral program supports is Environmental Compliance and Stewardship, requiring airports to pursue sustainability practices to protect the natural environment and quality of life for airport employees and neighbors, and promote the economic development potential of the airport.

MassDOT and the Nantucket Airport plan to rigorously pursue energy efficiency in airport buildings, on the airfield and among fleet vehicles. Efficiency will likely involve major upgrades to retrofit mechanical equipment, lighting systems and other facilities. New automation systems and operational changes will achieve additional energy savings. On-site renewable energy will be generated with the goal of equaling or exceeding energy consumption that cannot be eliminated.

The Carbon Neutral project includes \$805,000 in MassDOT Aeronautics funding along with other expected local and federal funding sources such as possible state funding from the Department of Energy Resources (DOER) and FAA's Voluntary Airport Low Emission (VALE) funding program.

The winning Energy Service Company will become one of the major players in creating **the first airport – envisioned to be the first of many airports – with “carbon neutral” ground operations in the United States.** The ESCO will therefore receive national recognition as a leading expert for airports seeking carbon neutrality. Additionally, the ESCO will gain significant local recognition at a time when the Town of Nantucket is exploring use of ESCO's for boiler upgrades, solar PV facility installations on municipal building rooftops, and other energy efficiency and emission reduction projects on the island beyond the airport.

The Town of Nantucket, MassDOT, and the Volpe Center are truly excited to partner with an equally enthusiastic ESCO on a project with such significance. The potential environmental benefits from this project will directly benefit the public, while the business opportunity for the ESCO to bolster its sustainability credentials in a quickly growing market make for an excellent opportunity for all of the stakeholders.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Daniel W. Drake', written over a horizontal line.

Daniel W. Drake, Chairman  
Nantucket Memorial Airport Commission