

Project Profile: Coast Guard Alternatively-Financed Projects Green Book

Verus Resource Management, Inc. (Verus) serves as program management consultant in support of the United States Coast Guard Office of Energy Management, COMDT (CG-46). Verus provides on-going comprehensive services that include project facilitation, performance reporting, strategic planning, outreach, and policy development.

Background

With more than 18 years of combined experience supporting and facilitating energy management performance contracts, Verus set out to provide Coast Guard stakeholders with codified and repeatable best practices for identifying, implementing, and monitoring alternatively-financed projects.

In Fiscal Year 2016, Verus spearheaded an Alternatively-Financed Projects "Green Book" in conjunction with the Coast Guard Office of Energy Management, COMDT (CG-46) and Office of Civil Engineering, COMDT (CG-43). The team set out to develop a framework for critical decision and coordination milestones and systematize how stakeholders approach all Coast Guard alternatively-financed energy projects.

As a result, the Green Book provides Coast Guard energy managers, civil engineers, acquisition, and legal professionals with standards for internal controls and clear management procedures related to alternatively-financed energy projects. Based on lessons learned from prior projects, Verus developed an organizational structure designed to improve coordination among stakeholders. For the first time, the Green Book establishes leads and support staff for every



Management Services

- Policy Development
- Strategic Planning
- Cross-functional Team
 Coordination
- Training



phase of a Coast Guard alternatively-financed project. This structure decreases repetitive training and lost time for transitional staff and will establish a responsible party during every project phase, including the performance period, which was identified as an issue with alternatively-financed projects across the federal portfolio.

Verus designed examples, templates, and worksheets that are Coast Guard-specific. Instead of using generic DOE templates, the Coast Guard will leverage the custom worksheets to enhance communications and execution of key project milestones.

The Green Book will allow the Coast Guard to ensure persistence of savings and financial integrity of each performance contract through a series of codified checks and balances.

The Green Book will also reduce inefficiencies during project development, saving personnel resources, and will improve the breadth of these projects, allowing the Coast Guard to realize increased savings.

Verus helped Coast Guard stakeholders design an approach to alternatively-financed projects that includes numerous levels that build on one another. Within in each phase, the Green Book outlines standardized procedures to enhance execution and clearly define stakeholder roles and the path to each project phase.

Verus worked closely between all stakeholders to define a single execution strategy to achieve objectives for multi-discipline personnel with various authorities, from Headquarters to equipment maintenance personnel.

The Green Book was promulgated by COMDT (CG-46) and COMDT (CG-43) and now serves as the benchmark for best practices as the Coast Guard continues to pursue alternatively-finance projects.

The Green Book is one of several strategic or procedural guides that Verus has developed on behalf of the U.S. Coast Guard to improve energy management, fuel logistics, and internal processes.



Alternatively-Financed Projects Green Book Office of Energy Management, COMDT (CG-46), Publication 1-0 Office of Civil Engineering, COMDT (CG-43) June 2016



Figure 1: Green Book Cover

Lessons Learned

- Previous standards and procedures failed to assign clear stakeholder responsibility throughout project performance and caused inconsistencies in planning and execution from project-to-project.
- Staff transitions caused repetitive training and lost time.
- Measurement & Verification period lacked perpetual monitoring and accountability.

For More Information

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