Sustainability Fellowship
Utility Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory
Unitil
Hampton, NH

About the Sustainability Fellows Program:
UNH Sustainability Fellowships pair exceptional students from across the U.S. with municipal, educational, corporate, and non-profit partners in New England to work on transformative sustainability initiatives each summer. Sustainability Fellows undertake challenging projects that are designed to create an immediate impact, offer a quality learning experience, and foster meaningful collaboration. Fellows work on-site with their mentors at partner organizations during the summer, supported by a network of Fellows, partners, alumni, and the UNH Team. Graduate students, exceptional undergraduate students, and recent graduates from any accredited college or university are eligible to apply.

A detailed description of one Fellowship follows. To learn more about the other Fellowships offered this year, and for application instructions, see: www.sustainableunh.unh.edu/sustainability-fellows.

About the Host Organization:
Unitil Corporation is an interstate electricity and natural gas utility company that serves nearly 190,000 customers in New Hampshire, Massachusetts and Maine. Unitil is a small investor owned utility that released its inaugural Corporate Sustainability Report in 2019: https://unitil.com/sites/default/files/pdfs/Sustainability-Report-2019-WEB.pdf

About the Fellowship:
Unitil’s commitment to sustainability was initiated in 2018 and efforts to determine what sustainability means to the organization and how to evaluate and act on that commitment are starting to germinate. In order to establish a baseline against which to measure our progress, Unitil would like to create a more comprehensive Greenhouse Gas inventory – currently we have initiated emission metrics for energy delivery but not for operations. Some data has already been compiled, and the Fellow will be expected to gather additional data from internal resources, to complete the inventory, to document replicable methods for updating the inventory, and to create a comprehensive report.

Outcomes:
The tangible outcome from this internship will be a greenhouse gas inventory report. This report will be an essential part of establishing a baseline to gauge our progress in achieving our sustainability goals.
Impact:
The Fellow will gain experience developing a corporate GHG inventory – including data collection and evaluation, conversion and baseline establishment. The fellow will gain firsthand experience with some of the ambiguity around what is and is not included in an inventory – and in documenting that decision-making process. The Fellow will have a chance to be involved in the foundational stages of sustainability planning for utility company.

Developing a GHG Inventory that includes operations emissions is not standard practice for utilities, but it demonstrates Unitil’s commitment to lead by example and helps create a cultural shift in the understanding of responsibility for emissions. This will help to catalyze an organizational shift within the utility, in an industry which is known for a glacial pace for change. This model for shifting the culture internally may be a replicable model for other utilities to follow in order to transition into the energy delivery organizations that the future needs.

Desired Qualifications:
• An academic background in climate science, environmental science/policy, business, or a related field
• Data management and analysis experience
• Excel proficiency
• Interest in corporate sustainability and responsibility
• Knowledge of the energy industry

Work Location: Unitil Corporation, 6 Liberty Lane West, Hampton, NH

Mentors:
- Sara Sankowich, Manager Forestry Operations & Sustainability
- Kristen Osterwood, Engineer, Systems & Standards

Compensation: $6500
(taxable and distributed on a two-week payroll cycle over the course of the fellowship)

Expectations:
Fellows are expected to be primarily dedicated to their assigned projects throughout the summer, and also participate in a variety of networking activities, professional development opportunities, and presentations coordinated by UNHSI. Specifically, Fellows are expected to:
• Attend a mandatory orientation at UNH prior to the start of the fellowship term, May 26-28, 2020. (Travel scholarships may be available for students traveling from outside New England.)
• Work full-time on-site at the partner organization, June 1 - August 14, 2020
• Complete 400 hours of work, including work at host site as well as UNHSI activities, between May 26 – August 14, 2020.
• Complete a fellowship project according to the work plan (with adjustments as necessary).
• Participate in weekly webinars or advisory group meetings.
• Present work at mid-term and final poster sessions at UNH on **July 10** and **August 7**. (Travel support available.)
• Engage in additional professional development, networking, and advisory activities as offered.
• Provide and receive feedback at the end of the fellowship.

**Apply by February 10** at [www.sustainableunh.unh.edu/sustainability-fellows](http://www.sustainableunh.unh.edu/sustainability-fellows).

**Questions** may be addressed to [megan.carney@unh.edu](mailto:megan.carney@unh.edu).