



Power Wise

Memorandum of Understanding

This Memorandum of Understanding (the "MOU") made as of this day of (the "Execution Date"),

BETWEEN:

Georgia Interfaith Power & Light (GIPL) 701 S. Columbia Dr., Campus Box 326, Decatur, GA 30030 and (congregation name and address)_____

Contact person – please identify one contact person who will serve as principal liaison for the Power Wise program: (name & email) _____

BACKGROUND:

- A. GIPL was founded in 2003 and incorporated in 2009 as a Georgia non-profit organization that engages communities of faith in stewardship of creation. GIPL offers Power Wise, a program to help congregations and their members reduce their use of energy and incorporate environmental stewardship into the entire life of their congregation. GIPL and the congregation wish to enter into a relationship of mutual support.
- B. _____wishes to enter into this relationship with GIPL in order to reduce its use of energy and incorporate environmental stewardship into the life of its congregation. To achieve this purpose, this congregation and GIPL wish to enter into a relationship of mutual support.

UNDERSTANDING OF THE PARTIES

GIPL will enter a cooperative relationship with_____with the following understandings:

- A. GIPL will offer a professional energy assessment for a fee of \$300 - \$1,000 depending on the congregation's operating budget, although this fee may be waived under special circumstances. Please check the fee at the bottom of this document, based on the congregation's budget.
- B. For those congregations most in need of it, GIPL will offer the free services of a project manager to help congregations determine how to make energy improvements in the most expeditious and cost-effective way.

- C. GIPL will come to a public meeting at the congregation and report the general findings of the energy assessment or discuss other available resources and programs.
- D. GIPL will offer a matching grant of up to \$7,000 for energy improvements. Due to the limitation of funds this will be competitively awarded on the basis of need and the impact on saving energy. **The grant application deadline is November 15 of each year.**
- E. Power Wise Energy Audits performed in 2019 or earlier need to be redone in order to apply for a grant due to changes in energy efficiency technologies.
- F. All grant funding must be used within one year of its award for the improvements authorized by GIPL. If your congregation wishes to use the funds for something other than what was approved, you must get approval from GIPL.
- G. GIPL will offer free home energy assessment training to members of the congregation through occasional regional training sessions.
- H. GIPL may share the congregation's energy performance ranking with other congregations in the program.
- I. GIPL will post on its website the congregation's name, audit date, and any grant awarded to the congregation. This helps promote the Power Wise Program to others and furthers our goals of caring for Creation.

_____ will enter into this agreement and provide the following:

- A. The Congregation will pay a small administrative fee as discussed in A. above.
- B. The Congregation will provide relevant facility information about square footage, congregation size, building use, building construction dates as outlined in the Background Sheet provided by GIPL's Program Coordinator. In addition, a minimum of 13 months of the most recent electric and natural gas usage is needed to assist the auditor in his pre-assessment preparations. **Scanned bill images emailed to ayesha@gipl.org are preferred.**
- C. The Congregation will submit building blueprints or a floorplan, if available, for the auditor prior to the site visit. This should be submitted along with this MOU and the Background Sheet to GIPL's Program Coordinator.
- D. The Congregation will make its buildings and appropriate personnel available to GIPL during the actual on-site assessment (about 2 hours). Appropriate personnel should be familiar with the history of the congregation and buildings in addition to having keys to access all areas.

- E. The Congregation will enter good faith discussions about ways to make recommended improvements within the constraints of available funds and time so that energy efficiencies can be realized in a reasonable time.
- F. The Congregation will promote home energy assessment training among its members when that training becomes available in their area.
- G. GIPL has also developed a number of educational classes and workshops and practical climate solution programs related to the 20 high impact solutions from Drawdown Georgia. Congregations are encouraged to explore additional programs that will help them reduce their carbon footprint and enhance environmental stewardship on site.
- H. **Pay-It-Forward Contribution** - As a way to offer discounted and no-cost audits to energy burdened congregations and those in environmental justice communities, the congregation will voluntarily contribute to GIPL an amount equal to their energy audit fee (\$300-\$1,000) the year after their audit.

_____ will also allow GIPL to calculate their Nuclear Construction Cost Recovery Fee and utilize additional applicable utility data for ongoing advocacy initiatives and efforts to influence energy policy. (Please check one of the following).

- Permission to use utility data for ongoing advocacy initiatives **AND** permission to publicly use the congregation's name associated with this data in all relevant GIPL efforts.
- Permission to use utility data anonymously in all relevant GIPL efforts.

Signed: _____ Head of Staff/Clergy of the Church

The payment can be made by a check payable to Georgia Interfaith Power & Light at the address above. Failure to make timely payments will necessitate a review of GIPL's relationship with the Congregation and could adversely affect future collaborations. Either party can terminate this agreement without cause at any time.

Signed: _____

Hannah Shultz, Program Director of Georgia Interfaith Power & Light

Signed: _____

Member of Congregational Lay leadership of the

Congregation Signed: _____

Head of Staff/Clergy of the Church

Non-Binding - This MOU is entered into in good faith by each of the parties and so does not create a binding enforceable agreement between the Parties.

Please check the following box below to determine the cost of your audit: (If this fee is cost prohibitive, please speak with our Program Director, Hannah Shultz, hannah@gipl.org about discounted audit options.)

- \$300: Congregational Budget is \$0 - \$250,000
- \$400: Congregational Budget is \$250,000 - \$750,000
- \$500: Congregational Budget is \$750,000 - \$1,500,000
- \$1,000: Congregational Budget is >\$1,500,000

Please submit this document and utility information to:

Ayesha Abid, Program Coordinator

404-377-5552, ayesha@gipl.org