

# THE INSIDE STORY



## Greenhouse Gas Inventory of County Operations

In May 2009, County Executive Dan Onorato announced an effort to conduct a comprehensive inventory of the annual greenhouse gas emissions resulting from County government operations.

With support from the Pennsylvania Environmental Council (PEC) through a grant from the Vira A. Heinz Endowment, Allegheny County will join ICLEI-Local Governments for Sustainability, an association of more than 1000 local governments from 67 countries who are committed to sustainable development.

PEC staff members and a full-time Student Conservation Association intern will assist the County in conducting the inventory using the ICLEI Local Government Operations Protocol (LGOP). The study will include baseline quantifications for energy usage in County buildings, fuel usage in County vehicles, and emissions from County operations. Allegheny County will be the first in the nation to conduct an inventory using the ICLEI Local Government Operations Protocol.

LGOP is now the official standard for all local governments in the United States that wish to prepare and report greenhouse gas emissions. By following the LGOP, local governments can be confident that their work will adhere to the latest in greenhouse gas accounting, and they can be sure that their efforts will be compatible with collaborating partners' programs, as well as with any other entity that adopts the protocol for its programs. ICLEI has adopted LGOP as the basis for its Five Milestones for Climate Mitigation. Specific information on the ICLEI Local Government Operations Protocol is available at [www.iclei.usa.org/protocol](http://www.iclei.usa.org/protocol).

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