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Hi Renewable Energy Agricultural Program Staff,

Are homesteaders, residential persons who operate their own small agricultural practices to enhance their livelihoods, be eligible to apply for the REAP grant funding projects?

I have been working on a personal project, a Townhouse Mini-Farm idea, for a few years now. The REAP grant idea is probably not applicable, especially as a solo owner in a large complex with other owners who seem completely not interested in growing plants for supplemental food. I might have to be granted some unusual retrofits by my complex's association and management to reconstruct a skylight area into a solar resource. Then further, I would have to prove significant greenhouse gas reductions. I can imagine adding an electric vehicle and storage, perhaps having a special meter panel made. Retrofitting grey water resources makes sense. It seems where I live often has poor air quality, but last I checked it was not considered a disadvantaged community in CALENVIRO screen. I probably need to check again.

All considered, at this moment, applying the one townhouse mini-farm idea for REAP grant funding seems a complete stretch of the imagination. Reading about this new REAP grant idea assisted consideration somewhat. I have a taste of what large agricultural practices are like having long ago worked with alfalfa, soy, and a few other more cash like crops. I worked with several agricultural customers when I worked at SMUD, especially in the South of Sacramento. It seems the REAP program has potential for many Californians to add renewables to their properties. Also, there are many whom probably retired from large agriculture and/or probably want to.

All in all, I think the question about homesteader REAP applicability becomes a question more for other Californian residents, perhaps retiring farmers and agricultural people, which continue operate farm like practices at their own homes to enhance their lifestyles.

Sincerely,

Claire Warshaw