

# MAINE

<http://www.maine.gov/msep/>

MAINE's State Energy Program (SEP), a Division of the Maine Public Utilities Commission, provides information on energy efficiency and renewable energy, technical assistance, and appropriate referrals to Maine businesses and homeowners. The Program assists other organizations in applying for Department of Energy efficiency and renewable energy grants. The SEP continues to explore innovative ways to provide needed services to constituents while increasing overall energy savings in the State. We accomplish this work by using DOE funding to leverage matching funds at almost a dollar for dollar ratio.



In addition to the programs described above, the following actions have been taken to promote the more efficient use of energy in Maine.

- ◆ The Legislature has passed two bills – one requiring the State of Maine to achieve a 25% reduction in energy usage in State facilities, and the second establishing a Clean State Initiative that requires strict compliance with environmental regulations and includes objectives for recycling and energy efficiency.
- ◆ Maine has established a renewable resource portfolio requirement of 30% for retail electricity products included in the electric restructuring act, which is generally viewed as a policy encouraging renewable sources of electricity.
- ◆ The Maine Legislature has established The Energy Resources Council to facilitate more effective interagency coordination of State activities related to energy (Sec. 1.5 MRSA c.313-A). The Council is directed to address energy issues of state-level significance that involve or affect more than one agency. Council members include: the Director of the State Planning Office, the Chair of the Public Utilities Commission, The Commissioner of Environmental Protection, the Public Advocate, the Commissioners of Transportation, Administrative and Financial Services, Economic & Community Development, Conservation and the Director of the Maine State Housing Authority. The Council is chaired by the Governor's Director of Energy Independence.
- ◆ Free Energy Audit Program - The Division provides free small business and light industrial energy audits. In addition to the small business energy audits already completed, we work in concert with our sister organization, Efficiency Maine to conduct follow-up activities to ensure that businesses receive all available incentives to implement ideas generated as a result of the audits. Business audits conducted this year resulted in projected savings of

kWh/yr	MBTU/yr	#SOx/yr	#NOx/yr	#CO2/yr
1,011,970	18938.45	1129204	1851718	691900

- ◆ Energy Efficiency Loan Program for small businesses - This program provides low interest loans up to a maximum of \$35,000 to small businesses at a current interest rate of 3%, to pay for implementation of State Energy Program-recommended energy conservation measures. The outcomes of this program include measurable energy, environmental and cost savings, and improved comfort and productivity for Maine's businesses. Loans provided to Maine's businesses in the last year resulted in a savings of

kWh/yr	MBTU/yr	#SOx/yr	#NOx/yr	#CO2/yr
561,466	535,109.00	2261.78	22685.27	7332927.2

An important part of the State Energy Program’s work is accomplished through D.O.E. Special Projects grant awards. We are most grateful for DOE’s assistance in providing this important service to the State of Maine.

**WHOLE HOUSE ENERGY EFFICIENCY PILOT PROJECT (WHOLE HOUSE)** - The overall objective of this Project is to reduce residential energy costs, consumption of home heating fuels, and greenhouse gas emissions through residential energy efficiency gains. The Whole House pilot will be launched in southern and central Maine in order to provide Maine homeowners access to certified and accredited contractors who will provide a “one-stop shopping” experience that includes a residential energy audit, home energy improvements, and access to low interest loan instruments. The ultimate objective of the program is to transform the residential energy efficiency contractor market to the Whole House model. This model is based on the Home Performance with ENERGY STAR program. Ancillary program objectives include improvements to indoor air quality and building comfort and durability. This is a three year program with a goal of providing residential energy efficiency improvements to 1,500 homes in the target area. The project includes all tasks necessary to implement the Whole House pilot program in the target area, including: 1) training, certification and accreditation and mentoring for the contractors; 2) public information, advertising and marketing of the program; 3) development of a web-site; 4) quality assurance; and 5) measurement and quantification of program benefits.

***Rebuild America - Maine EnergySmart High Performance Schools Project***

The Maine EnergySmart High Performance Schools Project connects national, regional, and state resources to support the construction of energy smart, high performing schools to people who make school design and financing decisions in Maine - the administrators, boards, and volunteer building committees in the cities and small towns contemplating new school buildings. Through this grant the Maine Public Utilities Commission’s Maine State Energy Program partners with it’s sister organization, Efficiency Maine, and the Maine School Management Association (MSMA) to provide an EnergySmart Schools Circuit Rider who links the lay people engaged in the process of designing or renovating local schools with the resources provided by the Commission’s Efficiency Maine program to assist in the application of efficient design techniques and renewable energy technologies. Less than \$50,000 in Federal DOE dollars spent in the last fiscal year resulted in the following savings and Match funding.

<b>Actual Incentives Paid CY 2006 (match)</b>	\$747,862.00
<b>Total Energy Savings</b>	
Total kWh Annual Savings	1,154,384
Total Energy Dollar Savings	\$151,880.03
Natural Gas Therms	5,721
Gal. # 2 Oil	88,312.00
CO <sup>2</sup> (Lbs.)	2,676,573
SO <sup>2</sup> (Lbs.)	10,929
NOx	15,615