Smart Energy Design Assistance Center

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SEDAC

The Smart Energy Design Assistance Center (SEDAC) provides advice and analyses enabling private and public facilities in the State of Illinois to increase their economic viability through the efficient use of energy resources. SEDAC is sponsored by the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity in partnership with ComEd and Ameren Illinois Utilities and provides valuable services at no cost to for-profit businesses and public facilities. SEDAC is managed by the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and supported by the 360 Energy Group.

(Hyperlinks are shown in green)

EDUCATION

Online Classes are available through SEDAC and the Office of Continuing Education at UIUC:

The Architecture of Sustainability:
10 modules - individual or packaged.
Module 1: 3 AIA LUs/CEUs, $75.
Modules 2-10: 1 AIA LU/CEU, $50.
Package of 10 modules: 12 AIA LUs/CEUs, $450.

Energy Basics for Small Business.
Module 1: The Language of Energy: 1 CEU, $25.

Online Registration is continuous at www.continuinged.uiuc.edu

APPLY FOR SEDAC SERVICES ONLINE

NEWS

Economic Stabilization Bill Includes Clean Energy Tax Incentives

The Emergency Economic Stabilization Act of 2008 (H.R. 1424) extended and enhanced critical tax credits and financing relating to renewable energy and energy efficiency. The Energy Improvement and Extension Act of 2008, which was attached to H.R. 1424, provides a one-year extension of the production tax credit (PTC) for wind energy, keeping the credit in effect through 2009. The bill also provides a two-year PTC extension, through 2010, for electricity produced from geothermal, biomass, and solar energy facilities, as well as trash-to-energy facilities, small hydropower facilities using irrigation water, capacity additions to existing hydropower plants, and hydropower facilities added to existing dams. The bill also creates a new PTC for electricity produced by marine and hydrokinetic renewable energy systems (also called advanced water power systems) with a rated capacity of at least 150 kilowatts and placed in service by 2011.

The biggest winner in the act is solar energy, which gained an 8-year extension (through 2016) of the 30% tax credit for residential and commercial solar installations, as well as the elimination of the $2,000 tax credit cap for residential solar electric installations. In addition, small wind power gained a 30% tax credit, up to $4,000 for wind turbines with capacities of 100 kilowatts or less, also good through 2016. The tax credits for fuel cells and microturbines are also extended by 8 years and the fuel cell tax credit limit is tripled, to $1,500 for each 0.5 kilowatts of capacity. The act also creates a new 10% tax credit for certain combined heat and power systems and for geothermal heat pumps (up to $2,000).

In terms of energy efficiency and alternative fuels, the act extends energy efficiency tax deductions for commercial buildings through 2013 and revives similar deductions for home improvements installed in 2009, adding a new $300 tax credit for energy-efficient biomass fuel stoves. It also extends tax credits for builders of new energy-efficient homes through 2009 and increases tax credits for manufacturers of energy-efficient appliances, while extending that credit through 2010. The act creates a new tax credit of up to $7,500 for plug-in hybrid vehicles, which are expected to go on sale in 2010.

OTHER

Green Institute at Heartland Community College, Normal
November 13 - April 30: Building Operator Certification Level 1

Chicago Center for Green Technology

Energy Center of Wisconsin
Beyond Code: Designing Energy Efficient Commercail Buildings by Don Fournier

EVENTS

January 7-9, 2009: MEEA **Midwest Energy Solutions Conference,** Chicago. **Register now**

DOE Reaches 50% Milestone toward Commercial Zero-Energy Buildings

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) and the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) have released the first technical support documents to show 50% energy savings in commercial retail buildings. The two reports provide recommendations on how to achieve 50% energy savings over the American Society of Heating, Refrigerating, and Air-Conditioning Engineers (ASHRAE) Standard 90.1-2004 in **grocery stores** and medium-sized **retail buildings**.

SEDAC clients are satisfied

"Hamburger Mary's has done many of the items suggested by SEDAC, and has already seen positive results. The most noticable have been due to our kitchen energy management policy (turning down equipment, etc). As a result, gas consumption has dropped dramatically."

Search for a SEDAC pre-qualified Energy Service Provider

NEWS

Building Tune-Up Strategy from ENERGY STAR

Now we are in the heating season, it is not too late for building operators to perform routine maintenance:

Lighting + Supplemental Loads: 1. Follow a strategic lighting maintenance plan of scheduled group relamping and fixture cleaning. 2. Measure and ensure proper light levels. 3. Calibrate lighting controls.

Building Envelope: Tighten the building to reduce air infiltration by locating and sealing all air leaks in the windows, doors, walls, and roofs.

Controls: Calibrate the indoor and outdoor building sensors. Calibration of room thermostats, duct thermostats, humidistats, and pressure and temperature sensors should be in accordance with the original design specifications. Calibrating these controls may require specialized skills or equipment, such as computer software.

Heat Exchange Equipment: Clean the air side of heating and cooling coils, whether in an air handler or in a rooftop unit, to reduce deposit buildup. Replace filter media and maintain a regular schedule of changing them.

Heating and Cooling System: Conduct a boiler tune-up, maintain cooling towers, clean air cooled condenser coils, replace refrigerant filters as needed.

EEPS UPDATE

Electric Efficiency Funding Still Available!!!

The Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO) has funding for incentives for electric efficiency improvements for **Public Sector** entities including municipalities, public K-12 schools, colleges, universities, and local, city, county, state and federal government. Public Sector entities must be located in Ameren Illinois or ComEd electric service territories. For further information on the ***DCEO Public Sector Electric Efficiency*** programs go to **www.illinoisenergy.org** or send e-mail to **illinois.energy@illinois.gov**

Incentives are still available for businesses (profit and not-for-profit), manufacturers, hospitals, private schools and private colleges in the Ameren Illinois Utilities service area. For information on the ***Ameren Illinois Act on Energy*** business programs, go to **www.actonenergy.net/business.asp**

At this time the ***ComEd Smart Ideas for Business*** program is no longer accepting applications for program year 1 funds. For future program plans go to: **www.exeloncorp.com/ourcompanies/comed/comedbiz/energy_savings_products_and_services/**