

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

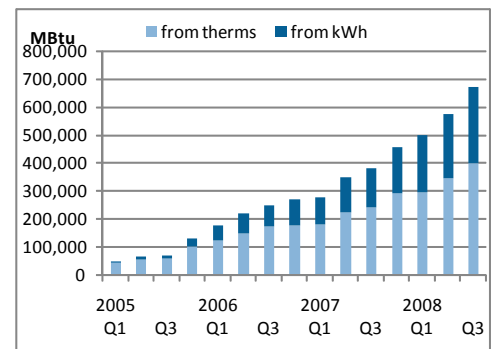
February TBA: SEDAC Lunch and Learn on Boiler Efficiency by Brian Duffield.

NEWS

Potential Energy Savings for SEDAC Clients are 650,000 million Btu

This figure shows the potential energy savings identified by SEDAC recommendations. Potential savings of over 650,000 million Btu have been identified through September 2008. The source of these savings has shifted over time, with nearly all of the savings in the early part of the program coming from natural gas. Over time the share of potential savings coming from electricity has increased to its current level of 40% of recommended savings to date.

SEDAC Potential Energy Savings



EIA: Economic Crisis to Keep Energy Prices Low Through 2009



U.S. crude oil prices have dropped from record highs earlier this year to less than \$50 per barrel, and DOE's Energy Information Administration (EIA) now expects crude oil prices to average only \$50 per barrel in 2009. According to the EIA's "**Short-Term Energy Outlook**," released December 9, the "increasing likelihood of a prolonged global economic downturn" has put downward pressure on energy prices, causing the average U.S. price for regular grade gasoline to fall to \$1.70 per gallon on December 8. Diesel fuel

prices are also down, at \$2.52 per gallon.

In fact, all fuel prices are down, and that will be good news for U.S. consumers this winter. Residential heating oil prices are projected to average \$2.53 per gallon during this heating season, down 24% from last year, and propane prices are expected to be 14% lower than last year. Natural gas spot prices are expected to be about 32% lower next year, but residential natural gas prices will only be about 1.3% lower this winter, in part because residential prices respond much more slowly than the spot market. U.S. petroleum consumption is projected to fall by 5.8% for 2008 as a whole, and to fall another 1% next year, while new oil production platforms in the Gulf of Mexico are expected to boost domestic crude oil production by 6.5% in 2009. Electricity rates are harder to predict but expect a slight upward trend.

The rapid drop in price due to reduced demand should remind consumers of the benefits of energy conservation. Not only will conservation reduce your costs, but also the overall cost of energy.



OTHER

DCEO Training Sustainable Planning Workshops

January 22, 2009: South Suburban University and College Center, Oak Forest. [Registration](#)

January 29, 2009: Heartland Community College. [Registration](#)

BOC TRAINING

January 29, 2009 – MAY 21, 2009:

Edwardsville – SIU CAMPUS - LEVEL I

February 3, 2009 – MAY 19, 2009:

Kankakee Community College - LEVEL I

ENERGY CENTER OF WISCONSIN

Beyond Code: Designing Energy Efficient Commercial Buildings
by Don Fournier

EVENTS

January 7-9, 2009: MEEA Midwest Energy Solutions Conference, Chicago. [Register now](#)

January 24-28, 2009: ASHRAE WINTER CONFERENCE & EXPO, Chicago.

EEPS LINKS

DCEO

www.illinoisenergy.org

ComEd

www.exeloncorp.com/ourcompanies/comed/comedbiz/energy_savings_products_and_services/

AMEREN ILLINOIS

www.actonenergy.net/business.asp



Search for a
SEDAC pre-qualified Energy Service Provider

APPLY FOR SEDAC SERVICES ONLINE

NEWS

DOE Develops Benchmark Models to Improve Building Energy Simulations

The Department of Energy (DOE), in conjunction with three of its national laboratories, has developed and made available commercial building benchmark models for building professionals to use when analyzing whole-building energy performance across the commercial building stock. The commercial benchmarks are available for DOE's EnergyPlus simulation software. The models provide a consistent baseline of comparison and improve the value of computer-generated energy simulations.

DOE's Building Technologies Program, working with DOE's Pacific Northwest National Laboratory, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, and National Renewable Energy Laboratory, developed models for 16 commercial building types in 16 locations representing all U.S. climate zones. These 16 building types represent approximately 70% of commercial buildings in the United States.

Users can download the benchmarks by building type or location at the [Commercial Building Benchmark Models Web page](#). Each benchmark building is comprised of:

An EnergyPlus input file (.idf)

An HTML file showing the results from the EnergyPlus simulation (.html)

A scorecard summarizing the inputs and results for each location (.pdfs)

Appropriate weather data file for EnergyPlus (.epw).

EnergyPlus is DOE's fully integrated building, HVAC, and renewables simulation program that allows builders and architects to analyze low-energy technologies in commercial and residential building simulations.

[Green Building Impact Report 2008](#) by GreenerBuildings.com

Holiday Energy-Efficiency Tips

Try these links below for no-cost/low-cost energy savings ideas

[ComED Lights Up the Holiday Season](#)

[Ameren Illinois FactsOnEnergy](#)

[Alliance to Save Energy](#)

[Sierra Club](#)

[Green Home Hints and Tips](#)

[EnergySavers.gov](#)

[ENERGYSTAR.gov](#)



To participate in the *Smart Energy Design Assistance program*, contact us at: (800) 214-7954 or info@SEDAC.org
Smart Energy Design Assistance Center, 1 East St. Mary's Road, Champaign, IL 61820
www.sedac.org