



**SMART
ENERGY
DESIGN**
Assistance Center

Smart Energy Design Assistance Center

Newsletter Vol. 4, No. 9, September 2008

www.sedac.org

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 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

October 10, 11:45 AM - 1 PM:
SEDAC Lunch and Learn on
Lighting by Mike Stanch.

Illinois Sustainable Technology Center (formerly WMRC), Champaign. Boxed lunch provided. Limited to first 50 registrants. Register by Oct 6.

EEPS NEWS

Estimating a Utility Rebate

Maybe you have attended one of the ComEd or Ameren Illinois workshops and are thinking about applying for an energy efficiency rebate. But, you aren't sure how to estimate how much the rebate could be. It is a relatively simple process. Let's review the rebate structure. All of the rebates are either prescriptive or custom. The prescriptive rebate is the most straightforward. There is a prescribed list of rebate options like a menu. All you do is pick the energy efficiency option you are interested in and the number that you plan to install. For example, suppose you are a Ameren Illinois or ComEd customer thinking about replacing 4-foot, 4-lamp T12 fluorescent fixtures and ballasts with 4-foot, 3-lamp, high performance T-8 fixtures and ballasts. Based on the Lighting Incentive Worksheets the rebate is \$7 per lamp and \$6 per lamp for permanent fixture delamp so for each three lamp fixture there is a \$27 rebate possible. If you are planning to replace 100 fixtures the potential rebate would be \$2,700.

Calculation of a custom rebate is more complicated and might require the assistance of a private energy consultant or SEDAC. The purpose of the custom rebate is to allow incentives for measures which are not on the prescriptive list but can save significant amounts of electricity. The custom incentive is generally calculated based on the estimated kWh savings. There are no specific guidelines on how the savings for custom incentives should be estimated. For this reason, custom incentive rebates always require pre-approval applications. This allows the utility to review the method used in estimating the kWh savings.

Please note that as of September 1, more than 430 applications have been submitted to **ComEd** and more than **85 percent** of funds for the first year of this three-year program have been reserved. **Ameren Illinois** electric business customers have applied for **76 percent** of the \$3 million in standard and custom incentive funds that are available for the first year of the program.

Check the **Ameren Illinois Utilities**, **ComEd**, and **DCEO** Web sites often as the programs develop.

AMEREN ILLINOIS UTILITIES
Act On Energy Business Program

www.ActOnEnergy.net

- Standard Business Incentives
- Custom Business Incentive

DCEO - www.illinoisenergy.org

Public Sector Electric Efficiency Programs
Custom Incentive Program
Retrocommissioning Program

COMED
Smart Ideas Business
Energy Solutions Programs

www.comed.com

- Prescriptive Incentives
- Custom Incentives

Standard Incentive Program
New Construction Program



OTHER

September 23: Heartland Community College

Geoexchange 101: Introduction to Geothermal Heating and Cooling Systems

Learn about the HVAC choice the US EPA has called the most energy-efficient, cost-effective, environmentally clean heating and cooling technology currently known to exist. Find out about how it works, various design options, sizing considerations, life cycle costs, energy savings, LEED advantages and maintenance and care. This course is designed for developers, manufacturers, facilities managers, state inspectors, distributors, engineers, dealers, installers, HVAC contractors, trenching/drilling contractors and representatives from utilities and rural electric cooperatives.

Geoexchange 201: Advanced Geothermal Heating and Cooling Systems

Pre-requisite: "Geoexchange 101"

Continue learning more in-depth information about geothermal heating and cooling system technology. This course is designed for developers, manufacturers, facilities managers, state inspectors, distributors, engineers, dealers, installers, HVAC contractors, trenching/drilling contractors, and representatives from utilities and rural electric cooperatives.

Both workshops are free, but no-shows without at least 36 hours cancellation notice will be invoiced \$25 for course costs.

EVENTS

October 2 -3: Illinois Energy Expo, Bloomington, hosted by APEC

October 18: Renewable Energy Fair, Waubensee Community College.

November 17-18: DCEO PEER Exchange at Starved Rock.

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



Search for a SEDAC pre-qualified Energy Service Provider

NEWS ...contd.

SEDAC clients secure USDA grants

USDA recently awarded \$35 million for renewable energy and energy efficiency projects under USDA Rural Development's Section 9006. In Illinois \$1,759,084 has been awarded in grants and loans to 16 rural businesses. Of these 16 businesses, four received energy audits performed by SEDAC. These businesses received grants or loans totalling almost \$121,000. For more information on rural businesses, go to sedac.org.



Photo: Tom Abram

SMALL BUSINESSES CAN GET POWER ASSISTANCE FROM AMEREN ILLINOIS

Small businesses are eligible for up to \$5,000 in "hardship" assistance through a \$2 million rate-relief program. A small business is classified as a business with 50 or fewer employees. Applications will be accepted through September 26th for customers of AmerenCIPS, AmerenCILCO and AmerenIP who have purchased electricity from the companies since January 2007. Businesses must demonstrate how higher power bills have been a hardship. The program is part of a rate-relief program approved last year by the Illinois General Assembly. AmerenCIPS and AmerenCILCO customers may call 800-232-2477; for AmerenIP customers the number is 800-363-6805. Applications may also be completed online at www.ameren.com.

APPLY FOR SEDAC SERVICES ONLINE

HOME DEPOT launches National CFL Bulb Recycling Program

THE ENERGY EDUCATION COUNCIL LAUNCHES AN ENERGY EFFICIENCY RESOURCE CENTER

This portal is designed to offer a wide spectrum of energy efficiency information that will assist in locating resources and programs that address energy challenges in Illinois and the nation. The EERC is an ongoing project of the Energy Education Council.

To participate in the *Smart Energy Design Assistance program*, contact us at: (800) 214-7954 or info@SEDAC.org
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