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**ELECTRIC  
DISTRICT HEAT  
WATER  
WASTEWATER  
SOLID WASTE**

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For immediate release

### **BPU 2016 Energy Efficiency Programs Announced: Three Programs Enhanced**

The Jamestown Board of Public Utilities (BPU) announces 2016 Energy Efficiency Rebate Programs for electric customers, approved by the Board at its November 23 meeting. Three programs have been enhanced for the coming year, while three other programs will remain the same.

#### **Home Energy Audit Program**

The Home Energy Audit Program continues into 2016 but expands to include homes with up to four living units in the same building. Home Energy Audits are offered free-of-charge by New York State's Green Jobs, Green New York Program for residents making less than \$108,000 a year. The BPU subsidizes the audit for those making more than \$108,000 annually. Both programs provide rebates for electric customers who make changes suggested by the audit.

A home energy audit is an in-depth analysis of the home envelope, heating system and electric consuming devices performed by a Building Performance Institute (BPI) certified contractor. The audit includes monitoring of certain electric appliances, a blower door test to evaluate air filtration, a lighting audit, evaluation of hot water tanks, pipe insulation and more. A report is furnished to the homeowner at the end of the audit.

BPU rebates cover 25 percent of the cost of weatherization improvements with a \$2,000 maximum limit per property for all residential electric customers; and fifty percent, up to \$4,000, for customers who have used electric as their primary heat source for at least three years. Rebates will be issued in the form of a check.

#### **ENERGY STAR Rebate Program**

In 2016, the ENERGY STAR Rebate Program has added geothermal heat pumps and heat pump hot water tank heaters to the line-up of rebate products.

Geothermal Heat Pumps will be rebated at \$1,000 per one ton of heating capacity while heat pump hot water tank heaters will be rebated at \$500.

As in 2015, rebates for other products will be as follows: \$35 for residential windows, \$25 for skylights, \$50 for residential entry doors and \$100 for through-the-wall air conditioning units with a minimum capacity of 12,000 BTU. Central air conditioning units will be rebated at \$100 per ton of cooling capacity, which equates to approximately 12,000 BTU. HVAC Heat Pumps are rebated \$500 per ton of heating or cooling capacity, again, equaling approximately 12,000 BTU.

### **Lighting and Motor Rebates for Commercial and Industrial Customers**

The 2016 Lighting and Motor Rebate Program for Commercial and Industrial Customers will provide new rebates for Electric Vehicle (EV) battery charging equipment. One hundred percent of the equipment cost of an EV charging station will be rebated, though the cost of installation and labor is not eligible for rebates.

Commercial and industrial customers classified as service class 2 and 3 customers continue to be eligible for this program which also rebates purchase cost of permanently installed new light fixtures, ballasts, bulbs, sockets, LED exit signs and more. Occupancy sensors, electric motor and variable speed drives also qualify for the program.

Portable equipment and labor costs to install equipment are not included.

Any lighting or motor project that exceeds \$1,000 should be discussed with Energy Efficiency Coordinator Dan Reynolds before a project begins in order to qualify for rebates.

### **Residential Attic Insulation Program**

In 2016, individuals who own residential property in the BPU electric territory and use permanently installed electric heating equipment as the primary heat source are eligible to participate in the Residential Attic Insulation Program.

Rebate applicants in the program must take “before and after” pictures of their attic insulation to show a final thickness of at least 14 inches of insulation. Rebates are limited to fifty percent of the cost of the material and \$500 maximum per building and \$5,000 maximum per building owner. Rebates are not eligible for the labor installation cost.

Rebates are in the form of a credit on the BPU electric bill for owner-occupied houses and by check for rental property units.

### **Weatherization for Commercial and Industrial Customers**

This program continues into the new year and provides rebates to promote investment to improve the thermal envelope of commercial and industrial buildings and thus lower energy consumption through improved energy efficiency.

Applicants for rebates must be commercial and industrial customers classified as Service Class 2 or 3 who use electric or district heat as their primary heat source. Companies are limited to a maximum of \$10,000 of rebates annually and include weatherization projects such as air sealing, new doors, new strip doors and windows, and insulation of floors, ceilings, walls and pipes. Building Performance Institute (BPI) contractors must do the work.

Projects with a total anticipated rebate of \$1,000 or more must be approved by BPU Energy Efficiency Coordinator, Dan Reynolds, before being initiated.

### **Customized Incentive Program for Commercial and Industrial Customers**

Under this program, customers are paid for energy savings of a specific amount (each Kilowatt Hour saved) by efficiency measures that the customer performs.

Examples of energy efficiency measures that could receive funding under the program include installing building system automation equipment, heat recovery systems, natural lighting, equipment upgrades to higher efficiency, and fixing leaks in air systems, adding reflective surfaces to roofs and windows and investment in air and ground source heat pumps.

To qualify, customers must provide supporting documentation to demonstrate the potential energy efficiency savings. Documentation may be in the form of engineering reports, energy efficiency studies or manufacturers' cut sheet. Pre-approval must be received from Energy Efficiency Coordinator, Dan Reynolds.

### **How to Reach Energy Efficiency Coordinator Dan Reynolds**

The BPU's Energy Efficiency Coordinator, Dan Reynolds, may be reached at 661-1646 and at [dreynolds@jamestownbpu.com](mailto:dreynolds@jamestownbpu.com). Programs are described at [www.jamestownbpu.com](http://www.jamestownbpu.com) under the white "Energy Efficiency Opportunities" icon on the home page. Brochures also are available at BPU Customer Service, 92 Steele Street, Jamestown.

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