BPA Energy Efficiency Weekly Announcements, March 12, 2014

Events

Registration for Efficiency Exchange 2014 is Open -
Registration is open for Efficiency Exchange 2014! The conference brings together utility energy efficiency staff and other key efficiency stakeholders from the Northwest and elsewhere for learning and collaboration. The conference will be held on May 6-8 at the Three Rivers Convention Center in Kennewick WA. Conference sessions will be May 6 and 7 and the third day, May 8, will be reserved for informative site tours and activities that will let you see firsthand how efficiency works in the field. A preliminary conference agenda can be found here.

Early bird registration for utility staff remains $195, but this rate will expire on April 11, so be sure to register before that date. On April 12 the rate will go up to $245. We have reserved room blocks at a number of hotels near the convention center; a full list is available at the Efficiency Exchange hotel web page.

Energy Efficiency Post-2011 Review Regional "big tent" Meeting March 20, 2014, at Emerald People's Utility District -
BPA invites its public power customers and regional stakeholders to participate in the Energy Efficiency Post-2011 Review public process. Five workgroups have been formed. Workgroups began January 16 and will continue through April. BPA will hold a series of regional meetings, this being the second, to provide an opportunity for workgroups to report out and to solicit feedback from stakeholders outside of the each workgroup. More information can be found here. For background materials and a complete schedule go here.

General

Impact Evaluation of Site Specific Savings -
BPA is beginning an impact evaluation of our site specific savings projects (custom projects and lighting calculators). This is a vital study that will substantiate nearly half of our efficiency portfolio and will provide recommendations for future program improvements. The evaluation sample will contain approximately 150 projects; we expect between 40 and 50 utilities to be included.

If you were notified by your EER that your utility has a project or projects included in this study we encourage you to attend the kick off webinar on March 21 at 10:00am that will provide information on the project, timeline, communication protocols, and your role in this evaluation. We have not contacted any end users, and will not do so until we have notified utilities, reviewed project files in detail and worked with utilities on end user communication processes.

Additional information on the kick off webinar can be found here.
For more information, a project summary can be found here.

Program Updates

BPA Customer Utilities Get in the QA Game with PTCS -
Several BPA customer utilities have signed up to be reimbursed by BPA for doing quality assurance (QA) PTCS inspections. Benton REA, Inland Power and Light, Central Electric Cooperative, Grays Harbor, Columbia River PUD, Benton PUD and Clallam County PUD are partnering with BPA to conduct PTCS inspections in their service territory with qualified staff or contractors. The commitment from these utilities is an important step to ensuring PTCS work is being inspected across the region and will supplement inspections conducted by BPA.

Please complete the Letter of Interest form if you would like to partner with BPA on PTCS Quality Assurance. Contact Stephanie Vasquez, PTCS program manager, at smvasquez@bpa.gov or (503)-230-3492 for more information.

Reminder

Smart Water Heat Tier 2 Rebate -
Smart Water Heat's consumer rebate on Tier 2 heat pump water heaters will expire after Mar. 31. Act now and save your customers $750 on qualifying Tier 2 heat pump water heaters! Tier 2 units are the most efficient and quietest product in their class, are available in multiple sizes, and come with a ten year warranty. Make the most of this great deal by spreading the word using Smart Water Heat's free, customizable marketing templates or BPA's free, customizable marketing templates.

Installations must be complete and paperwork submitted to Smart Water Heat n**o later than Mar. 31 to qualify for the Smart Water Heat Tier 2 rebate**; click here to review eligibility requirements.
If you have any questions, please contact Smart Water Heat at info@smartwaterheat.org.

HVAC Trade Ally Network Contractor Selected -
Savings from HVAC upgrades and O&M practices remain one of the largest commercial efficiency opportunities in the region, and contractor and distributor engagement are key to achieving those savings. BPA is excited to announce that Lockheed Martin has been selected to work with BPA, our customers, and regional stakeholders to develop and launch a commercial HVAC trade ally network along with supporting measures and program offerings.

BPA is just beginning this process. Before launching any program efforts BPA will work with Lockheed Martin to reach out to utilities and HVAC trade allies throughout the region to gather feedback on how best to facilitate the uptake of efficient HVAC equipment and practices. This collaborative development process will last several months after which we will host a brownbag to present our preliminary findings. If you would like to learn more or provide additional feedback, please contact your Energy Efficiency Representative.

Introducing Lighting Calculator 3.2 -

Lighting Calculator v.3.2 is coming April 1, 2014! Join the wave of users who have already switched and experience the most options and the greatest degree of control yet! March 31 is the last day to submit projects using v.2.3... More