

NH Energy Programs Available to NH Residential & Business Customers Snapshot October 1, 2008*

Existing:

| Program | Administrator | Implementer | Funding Source | Eligibility | Annual Funding | Customers Served | Other info |
|---|---|--|--|---|--|---|--|
| “Core” Statewide Electric Efficiency (EE) Programs (www.nhsaves.com) | NH Electric Utilities (PSNH, Unutil, National Grid, NH Electric Coop) | Electric Utilities, Community Action Agencies (CAPs) for low income (LI), and subcontractors | System Benefits Charge (EE gets 1.8 mills of 3.3 mills total (\$0.003/ kWh); about \$1-2/mo. | All Electric utility ¹ customers; Low Income EE programs eligible to those at or under 185% FPG | Approx. \$20 million from all electric customers | Approx. 90,000 in 2007 (includes everything from light bulbs to weatherization to large biz projects) | PUC reviews and approves annually, with input from intervenors; CAPs coordinate electric, gas and federal funds for low income customers; see www.nhsaves.com |
| Natural Gas Efficiency Programs | National Grid (f/k/a/ KeySpan) and Northern Utilities (to be purchased by Unutil 11/1/08) | Gas Utilities and subcontractors (CAPs for LI) | In gas rates | All customers of Grid and Northern; Low Income EE programs eligible to those at or under 185% FPG | Approx. \$2.5 million from all natural gas customers | Goal is 3,305 in 2008 program year | PUC approves programs and budgets every 3 years, with annual reviews. (Effort to increase alignment of electric and gas programs is underway) |
| Low Income Electric Assistance Program (“EAP”) | Community Action Agencies (CAPs), PUC and Electric Utilities | CAPs | System Benefits Charge (LI gets 1.5 mills of 3.3 mills total (\$0.003/ kWh) | Discount ranges from 5-70% based on income and household size; must be at or below 185% of FPG ² aiming to limit electric bills to 4% to 5% of household income | Approx. \$14 million from all customers | Approx. 28,000 in current year, increased to approx. 34,000 for 2009 | PUC approves EAP annual budgets and program changes; EAP Advisory Board meets quarterly to review program with CAPs and PUC Staff |
| Gas Low Income Assistance Program | Gas Utilities (National Grid (f/k/a KeySpan and Northern Utilities), in conjunction with CAPs | Gas Utilities | Charge in gas rates for all gas customers; less than 1% impact on customer bills | 60% discount off delivery portion of bill (doesn’t apply to the gas portion.) Overall discount is about 12-15% of total bill; eligibility based on programs i.e. LIHEAP, food stamps, etc. ≈ 185% FPG | Approx. \$1.2 million from all customers | Approx. 6,000 customers | |
| LIHEAP (fuel assistance)³ | Office of Energy and Planning (OEP) | Community Action Agencies (CAPs) | Federal budget | Available to income-eligible NH residents, for any heating fuel, at or below 185% of FPG | Approx. \$25 million | Approx. 33,000 households | State has appropriated additional funds for winter ’08-’09; eligibility will be up to 60% state median income |
| Federal Low Income Weatherization Program (“Wxn”) | Office of Energy and Planning (OEP) | Community Action Agencies (CAPs) | Federal budget | Available to income-eligible NH residents at or below 185% of FPG (subject to severe budget limitations; wait list) | Approx. \$1.35 million | Approx. 550 in 07/08 (16,000+ have requested services) | CAAs and OEP coordinate funds to be used with Core programs |
| NH Electric Coop Renewable Energy Incentives | NH Electric Coop incentives for solar, small wind turbines | NH Electric Coop | NH Electric Coop rates | NH Electric Coop members/customers | n/a | All NHEC customers | See http://www.smallsteps.coop/coop_programs/ |

¹ These programs are not available for customers of municipal electric departments (Ashland, Littleton, Wolfeboro, Woodsville), and they are not assessed the SBC.

² FPG = Federal Poverty Guidelines. For example, in 2008 a household of 1 with a Gross Annual Income of up to \$19,240 and a household of 4 with up to \$39,220 in annual income can qualify for EAP benefits.

³ Eligibility for and enrollment in LIHEAP, EAP and Gas Assistance program are coordinated on the customer side by the CAPs so that customers can enroll in all programs for which they are eligible. CAPs also provide information on EE programs at enrollment.

Additional Business Programs

| Program | Contact Info | Other Info |
|--|---|---|
| NH Business Resource Center's Business Energy Efficiency Program | Contact the New Hampshire Business Resource Center at 603-271-2591 or visit www.nheconomy.com . | The Business Resource Center's energy efficiency audit program, designed to reduce energy usage, identifies energy conservation opportunities and ways to reduce energy related operating costs for all types of businesses. |
| USDA Rural Development 9006 Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Programs | Visit www.rurdev.usda.gov/rbs/farbill/index.html or call 603-223-6042 for more information. | For agricultural producers or rural small business looking to reduce energy costs and consumption through the purchase of renewable energy systems and installation of energy efficiency improvements. Wind, solar, biomass, geothermal, hydrogen and efficiency technologies are Eligible. The deadline for grant funding is determined annually. |
| Ocean National Bank's Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Business Loan | Contact the New Hampshire Business Resource Center at 603-271-2591 or visit www.nheconomy.com . | Targeted for loan amounts of \$10,000 or more; Interest rate is prime minus 1% floating. Term and amortization based on energy efficiency payback (maximum 7 years). No up-front, out of pocket costs – subject to energy efficiency review findings, assignment of energy rebate at 20% of total project costs, and loan package. Uses energy cost savings to help repay loans. Loans can be used for renewable energy and energy efficiency projects, such as: energy efficient lighting systems, premium efficient motors, energy efficient HVAC systems and chillers, renewable energy systems and custom energy efficiency measures. |

Upcoming Programs (2009)

| Program | Administrator | Use of Funds | Funding Source | Annual Funding | Other info |
|--|---|---|---|--|---|
| Renewable Energy Fund (created by RPS statute, RSA 362-F, in 2007) | PUC administers fund pursuant to Puc 2500 rules which describe how to access the fund (see Puc 2507); EE & SE Advisory Board created in HB1561 will advise Commission | Renewable energy projects, can be any size and proposed by any person or business who is a customer of a NH provider of electricity (HB1628 creates a program for homeowners to access the funds, specifics TBD by PUC) | Renewable Portfolio Standard charge included in customer bills (est. at \$9/year for customers of Unitil and Grid) and \$5.50/year for a residential PSNH customer, which is lower because of PSNH's own qualifying renewable generation) | Alternative Compliance Payments (ACPs) in lieu of supplier acquisition of Renewable Energy Credits (RECs). Estimated at up to about \$10 million in FY 2009. This could be somewhat more or significantly less down to zero depending on the number of RECs available. | RPS costs are in customer bills now; First ACPs are due to be paid in July 2009. Funding to applicants will be available subsequently. |
| Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction Fund (created by RGGI statute, RSA 125-O: 19-28 (HB 1434)) | PUC administers fund; EE and SE Advisory Board created by HB1561 will help plan for fund starting in October 2008 | Multi-fuel energy efficiency programs and projects (including demand response); details TBD by PUC and HB1561 Sustainable Energy Advisory Board | NH allocated allowances will be sold in the regional RGGI auction | A minimum of approx. \$12 million in CY 2009 (plus approx. \$3m in 12/08) depending upon allowance auction price, and increasing in years thereafter | RGGI efficiency funds will be "fuel blind," i.e. available for efficiency projects for all fuel types, not limited to electricity and natural gas as are current programs |

*Prepared by the OCA with PUC input. More information on state assistance and efficiency programs is available at <http://www.puc.nh.gov/Consumer/consumer.htm>. Information on federally funded programs is at www.nh.gov/oepl. There are also federal tax incentives available for energy efficiency, information is at <http://www.doe.gov/taxbreaks.htm>.