



City and Borough of Sitka

ELECTRIC DEPARTMENT

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ENERGY STAR REBATE PROGRAM FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q: Who is eligible to participate in the Energy Star Rebate Program?

A: Electric customers of the City and Borough of City Electric Department are eligible to participate in the Energy Star Rebate Program

Q: When is the program available?

A: The official start date of the program will be February 24, 2012. The Electric Department received approval from the Assembly at the January 24th meeting and the ordinance takes effect 30 days from Assembly approval. Once the program is up and running, an official announcement will be made via local media and forms will be available via the City and Department websites.

Q: Why encourage this program if it only benefits the person applying for the rebate?

A: Everyone benefits from this program. The more people who replace appliances with Energy Star rated appliances, the more energy we save as a community. Energy savings means there is less electrical demand. Through this program, the Electric Department hopes to help electric consumers become energy efficient and act as a catalyst for future energy efficiency upgrades in Sitka.

Q: How long will the program last?

A: The program will last as long as there is funding available or until June 30, 2013. Presently, the Energy Star Rebate Program contains \$100,000 with an allocation of \$30,000 for appliance rebates and \$70,000 allocated for heat pumps.

Q: Why is this program being considered?

A: By encouraging our customers to save on electricity, the demand on electricity will decrease and reduce the need to run diesels.

Q: Is the program retroactive?

A: No, the program is not retroactive. Consumers will be eligible for the program if their Energy Star appliance is purchased after February 24, 2012, forms are properly filled out and submitted, and old appliances are disposed of properly.

Q: I want to replace an appliance, but how do I know what qualifies as an Energy Star appliance?

A: The Energy Star website provides a list of all manufacturers' and models of appliances that are Energy Star rated. This list is updated frequently and is the most comprehensive source of approved products.

http://www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?c=products.pr_find_es_products,

Q: Why does the Energy Star Rebate Program require the disposal of the old appliance?

A: The rebate program requires the disposal of the old appliance to ensure the appliance is removed from the grid and replaced with an energy efficient appliance. This will benefit the customer with lower energy costs and benefit the utility by reducing system load. If we offered the rebates for residents to upgrade appliances, but didn't require disposal of old, inefficient appliances, we would simply add more load to our already limited hydroelectric capacity.

Q: Where will the forms be available?

A: The program forms for the rebate will be available on the City of Sitka and the Electric Department websites. The forms will also be available at the Utilities Office in City Hall.

Q: What items are eligible for the program?

A: The items eligible are Energy Star rated freezers (upright or chest), heat pump hot water heaters, refrigerators, washing machines, and heat pumps (air or ground source).

Q: How much are the rebates?

A: The rebate amount is dependent on the item purchased. As for exact amounts, those details are being finalized before the program is officially in business.

The proposed rebate amounts are as follows:

Freezer: \$165

Refrigerator: \$250

Washing Machine: \$275

Heat Pump Hot Water Heaters: \$600 (CBS must verify location of installation in home)

(Air or Ground Source) Heat Pumps: \$1,500

Q: Is there a limit to the number of rebates one household can apply for?

A: Each household can only apply for **two** (2) rebates. The rebates can be for any two appliances.

Q: When will I receive the rebate?

A: Eligible participants who filled out the proper paperwork will receive the rebate in the form of a check no later than 30 days after submission to Electric Department after City employees verify the information listed on the forms is accurate.