



Electricity Efficiency & Conservation Plan

Q1 & Q2 Report

**Submitted to: The Island Regulatory and Appeals
Commission**

Submitted by: The PEI Energy Corporation

Introduction

In May of 2019, the Prince Edward Island Energy Corporation (PEIEC) received approval for a three-year electricity efficiency and conservation (EE&C) plan from the Island Regulatory and Appeals Commission. As per Order UE19-03, PEIEC is to provide Quarterly Reporting, as outlined in Appendix “A”. The quarterly reports will provide qualitative program updates, as well as planned vs. actual program participation. This report is for Q1 and Q2 of the 2019/20 fiscal year.

Program Updates

To determine demand side management savings, only applications where the primary heating source is electricity can be claimed. The PEI Home Energy Survey determined the primary heating source for 20 percent of homes on Prince Edward Island is electricity. For Energy Efficient Equipment, Home Insulation, and Business Energy Rebates Programs, this percentage is applied to determine a more accurate representation of eligible program participants. Primary heating source data is not currently collected on efficiencyPEI application forms. While data can be collected in Home Energy Audit files, application forms will be updated to collect this information.

Energy Efficient Equipment

The Energy Efficient Equipment program offers rebates for the installation of ENERGY STAR® certified heating equipment including heat pumps, water saving devices, biomass-heating devices, and other energy saving products.

Participation in the Energy Efficient Equipment Rebate Program increased dramatically in the 2018/19 fiscal year, with the increasing trend continuing in 2019/20. This increase can be contributed in part to higher grant amounts (April 1, 2018.) In Q1, 846 applications were received, while 705 applications were approved. In Q2, 1067 applications were received, and 931 were approved. Of the approved applications, 80% were for mini split air source heat pumps. With the 20 percent factor applied, there were 383 eligible program participants.

Home Insulation Rebates

The Home Insulation Program offers grants for the installation of insulation, air sealing improvements as well as ENERGY STAR® windows and doors.

The Home Insulation program received 71 applications in Q1, and approved 69 applications. There were 100 received in Q2, and 88 approved. For this program, clients must receive an energy audit before work is completed, and another audit post work. The average Home Insulation rebate was \$1700 during these quarters.

With the 20 percent factor applied, there were 34 eligible program participants.

Winter Warming

Winter Warming provides free air sealing and energy efficient upgrades to qualified low to moderate income Islanders.

In Q1, there were 142 program participants, and 163 in Q2. The number of program participants is expected to increase over the fall and winter months.

New Home Construction

The New Home Construction program incentivizes homeowners to build to ENERGY STAR® (20 percent better than code) or R2000 standard (50 percent better than code), offering two tiers of rebates depending on the efficiency standard achieved.

The New Home Construction Program had 25 applications received and 24 approved in Q1. In Q2 there were 18 applications received and 15 approved. Uptake in this program is forecasted to exceed initial estimates for the fiscal year. This can be contributed to a substantial increase in new builds on Prince Edward Island in 2019. Of the New Home Construction applications approved, 17 were for being 50 percent better than code, while the remaining 22 were 20 percent better than code.

Instant Energy Savings

The Instant Savings Program provides instant rebates in-store on select energy efficient products such as light bulbs and thermostats. Rebates are applied at the cash register, with no application required, and consist of a spring and fall campaign. Year-round rebates are also available in-store for larger appliances, including toilets, refrigerators, and washers.

During the Spring campaign, which took place during the month of April, 35,794 energy efficient units were sold. Eligible units include Energy Star® LED lamps, dimmer switches, low flow shower heads, programmable thermostats, outdoor clotheslines, and more. An additional 868 products from the year-round program were rebated. The fall campaign will take place between September 27th and November 3rd.

Home Energy Audits

This program offers subsidized home energy audits, which are designed to help homeowners increase the energy efficiency and comfort of their homes. The evaluation provides useful information about a home's energy performance that can help make informed decisions when operating, renovating or purchasing a home.

There are two service organizations contracted to complete residential home energy audits for efficiencyPEI. In Q1, 470 home energy audits were completed, and 311 in Q2. Of this, 611 were initial "D" audits, and 170 were final "E" audits. Participation in the Home Energy Audit Program displays keen interest in energy efficiency by Islanders.

Business Energy Rebates

The Business Energy Rebates program offers support to businesses, non-profits and institutional organizations, as well as industrial/agricultural facilities for choosing high-efficiency products.

This program was launched in July of, 2018 with a phased in approach. The original list of eligible products included 11 lighting products, 2 occupancy sensor products, and small capacity heat pumps. On April 1, 2019, the list of eligible rebate products expanded to include additional lighting types, occupancy sensors, additional heating systems, and Electronically Commutated Motors (ECM's). The Business Energy Rebates program received 60 applications (2208 units) in Q1, and approved 61 (2148 units.) There were more approvals than applications due to the fact the program carried over 9 applications from the previous fiscal year, which were ongoing at year-end. In Q2 there were 71 applications received (492 units), and 54 applications approved (347 units.) The most common rebate was for mini split air source heat pumps, accounting for 58% of approved applications.

Upcoming Programs

Business Energy Solutions


A Request for Proposals was issued for Small Business Energy Auditors (SBEA), with two successful proponents being selected. This program is expected to launch before the end of the 2019/20 fiscal year.

Custom Energy Solutions

The Custom Energy Solutions program will launch once two Onsite Energy Managers have been hired. At this time, the hiring process is ongoing and the program is expected to launch before the end of the 2019/20 fiscal year.

Participation

This section displays quarterly participation with the 20% factor applied where applicable.



Program	20% Applied	Q1	Q2	Total	EE&C Goal	Goal Achieved	% of Goal achieved
Energy Efficient Equipment	✓	169	213	383	815	<input type="checkbox"/>	47%
Home Insulation	✓	14	20	34	213	<input type="checkbox"/>	16%
New Home Construction		24	15	39	41	<input type="checkbox"/>	95%
Winter Warming		142	163	305	350	<input type="checkbox"/>	87%
Home Energy 'E' Audits		81	89	170	100	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	170%
Instant Savings		36,662	477	37,139	95,901	<input type="checkbox"/>	39%
Business Energy Rebates	✓	2,148	347	2,495	5,272	<input type="checkbox"/>	47%
Business Energy Solutions		-			10,958	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Custom Energy Solutions		-			5	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Administrative Updates

As per section 13 of the Order, PEIEC established a Demand Side Management Advisory Group within 90 days of the Order date. This group is titled the Electricity Efficiency & Conservation Advisory Group and has 13 representatives across business and industry, community organizations, government, and the public. The first meeting was held September 10th, with another to take place in early November.

As per section 17 of the order, PEIEC has hired an external consultant (Econoler) to provide evaluation services of DSM programming. This includes the creation of an Evaluation plan, with input from the EE&C Advisory Group.