

2024-2026 Efficiency Plan Program Updates

The company anticipates making the following enhancements and changes to the programs for the 2024-2026 plan.

Residential Offerings

EnergyWise Single Family (Electric and Gas)

- Coordinate with OER's High-Efficiency Heat Pump Pilot Program.
- Coordinate with OER to leverage additional federal funding opportunities (e.g., ARRA, IRA).
- Leverage the high-cost effectiveness of weatherization measures and heat pump installations by offering additional funding to remediate pre-weatherization barriers (up to the point of cost effectiveness for both measures).
- Improve data collection efforts around pre-weatherization barriers, to better understand their impact on energy efficiency progress.
- Collaborate with stakeholders and other groups to assess best practices and new strategies to address pre-weatherization barriers (also applicable to Income Eligible Services program).

Multifamily (Electric and Gas)

- Use the Heat Pump Market research study results, including landlord interviews, to target landlords for heat pump upgrades and other applicable energy efficiency measures (also applicable to C&I Multifamily Program)
- Work to establish a pilot program around one or more new financing options for multi-family (also applicable to C&I Multifamily Program).

Income Eligible Services (Electric and Gas)

- Ensure the IES program is delivered equitably, with the input and guidance of the Rhode Island EWG.
- Address the deferrals and pre-weatherization barriers that stand in the way of many low-and-moderate income customers receiving IES program services.
 - Expand on and refine recent initiatives regarding data tracking of deferrals and pre-weatherization barriers across all Residential Home Services programs.
 - Collaborate with stakeholders and other groups to assess best practices and new strategies to address pre-weatherization barriers.
 - Identify and compile resources for leveraging funding to address pre-weatherization barriers.

Residential New Construction

- Revise the RNC program guidelines to reflect changing baseline assumptions.

- Increase the number of projects achieving advanced building standards and certifications such as Zero Net Energy and Passive House.
- Determine needed implementation changes based on an ongoing User Defined Reference Home (UDRH) study.

Home Energy Reports (Electric and Gas)

- Explore tailoring HER program to target specific audiences (e.g., high users).
- Explore increasing messaging to Automated Metering Frequency (AMF) customers.

Residential Consumer Products (Electric)

- No major changes planned.

Residential High-Efficiency Heating, Cooling, and Hot Water (Electric and Gas)

- Target electric heat resistance customers for heat pump upgrades as outlined in the Company's *Electric Resistance Heating to Air Source Heat Pumps: Implementation Plan for the Income Eligible Sector* (also applicable to Income Eligible Services program).
- Coordinate with OER's High-Efficiency Heat Pump Pilot Program.
- Research opportunity to implement right-sizing incentives for fossil fuel equipment and options for optimizing electric versus gas.
- Coordinate with OER to leverage additional federal funding opportunities (e.g., ARRA, IRA).
- Coordinate with OER on HVAC workforce development in 2024.

Commercial and Industrial Offerings

New Construction

- The Commercial and Industrial New Construction program underwent a program redesign to simplify the pathways for participation; the Company is anticipating those changes will result in additional program activity during Program Years 2024-2026
- Revise the Large Commercial New Construction program guidelines to reflect changing baseline assumptions, IECC 2018
- Changes to Upstream New Construction baseline assumptions for Food Services and HVAC

Retrofit

- The Company will look to deploy a data-driven approach to increasing customer participation in the commercial and industrial sector.
 - Analyze customer consumption data (kWh, peak load, and therms) and past energy efficiency participation to better target customers, especially non-participants.
- Expand the reach of its Strategic Energy Management Planning (SEMP) initiative to support the increasing number of customers with climate and sustainability goals

- Expand services supporting more advanced system controls, energy management systems, and building analytics
- Enhanced incentives to customers that commit to implementing comprehensive energy efficiency measures.
- Enhance continuing education for building managers and facilities operators
- Work with OER to better understand electrification efforts being funded through State and Federal programs.
- Promote prescriptive and custom offerings to promote commercial weatherization and greenhouse gas emissions reduction.

Small Business Direct Install

- Promote prescriptive and custom offerings to promote commercial weatherization and greenhouse gas emissions reduction including the development of prescriptive weatherization and air sealing offerings.
- Further promote Main Streets initiative in Environmental Justice Areas
- Deploy multilingual marketing materials and program materials
- Work with OER to better understand electrification efforts being funded through State and Federal programs.