Resources for Rebate Eligible Improvements

Energy Saver Rebate

(For Fix-up Fund loans committed 12/8/09-3/16/10 and 3/30/10-3/31/10)

The following contains more detailed information on eligible equipment and improvements. In addition, websites are listed to help homeowners and contractors determine what equipment is eligible for an Energy Saver Rebate.

Questions related specifically to energy efficiency and rebate eligibility may be directed to the **Energy Information Center at 800.657.3710 or go to www.energy.mn.gov.**

Heating System Replacement–

Natural Gas or Propane Furnaces that have an Annual Fuel Utilization Efficiency (AFUE) of 95% or greater are eligible for the Energy-Saver Rebate and may be eligible for Federal Tax Credits.

Oil furnaces and hot water boilers fueled with gas, propane or oil that have an AFUE of 90% or greater are also eligible.

If the homeowner is changing fuel sources, only the new furnace and the labor to install it are eligible. Installing new lines or removing old tanks are not eligible.

To verify tax credit eligibility, the homeowner should require the contractor to provide the Manufacturer's Certification Statement for the equipment that is to be installed.

There is not a single comprehensive list of heating products that are eligible, however, the following links should provide guidance:

Furnace Replacement–

- www.ahrinet.org/ARI/util/showdoc.aspx?doc=1332
- www.energystar.gov
    - Select Products
    - Select Furnaces
    - Select Find a Product

Boiler Replacement–

- www.ahrinet.org/ARI/util/showdoc.aspx?doc=1358
- www.energystar.gov
    - Select Products

- Select Boilers
- Select Find a Product

Air Conditioning Replacement–

The Energy Saver Rebate requires that an eligible central A/C unit be a replacement. Installing a new, not replacement unit while not eligible for an Energy Saver Rebate, can be financed by a Fix-up Fund loan and may still be eligible for a Federal Tax Credit for Energy Efficiency. Both split system and packaged units are eligible for a Rebate.

Split systems with an EER equal to or greater than 13 and SEER equal to or greater than 16 are eligible for the Energy Saver Rebate.

To verify tax credit eligibility, the homeowner should require the contractor to provide the Manufacturer's Certification Statement for the equipment that is to be installed.

There is not a single comprehensive list of air conditioning products that are eligible however the following links should provide guidance:

- www.ari.org/Content/FederalTaxCredits_896.aspx
- www.energystar.gov
  - Select Products
  - Select Air Conditioning, Central
  - Select Find a Product

Light Fixture Replacement –

Energy Saver Rebate eligibility requires that light fixture replacements be Energy Star qualified. Compact fluorescent bulbs are not eligible.

To find an eligible fixture:

- www.energystar.gov
  - Select Products
  - Select Lighting
  - Select Light Fixtures
  - Select Fluorescent Fixtures and/or LED Lighting
  - Select Find a Product

Window Replacement –

Energy Saver Rebate eligible windows must be Energy Star certified. Not all Energy Star labeled windows qualify for the Federal Tax Credit for Energy Efficiency. To be eligible for the Federal Tax Credit for Energy Efficiency, windows must meet U-factor and Solar Heat Gain Coefficient (SHGC) ratings of 0.30 or less. These ratings must be certified by the National Fenestration Rating Council and a link to the NFRC is below. The Office of Energy Security recommends that Energy Saver Rebate participants install replacement windows

that meet the Federal Tax Credit for Energy Efficiency standards in order to receive the tax credit as well as the rebate.

For more information:

- www.energystar.gov
    - Select Products
    - Select Windows, Doors and Skylights

Federal Tax Credit for Energy Efficiency information:

- www.energystar.gov
    - Select Tax Credits for Energy Efficiency
    - Select Windows and Doors

National Fenestration Rating Council website:

- www.nfrc.org

Exterior Door Replacement –

The Energy Saver Rebate program requires that exterior doors must meet the Federal Tax Credit for Energy Efficiency requirements. Exterior doors must have U-factor and SHGC ratings of .30 or less. These ratings must be certified by the National Fenestration Rating Council.

Federal Tax Credit for Energy Efficiency information:

- www.energystar.gov
    - Select Tax Credits for Energy Efficiency
    - Select Windows and Doors

National Fenestration Rating Council website:

- www.nfrc.org

Attic Air Sealing -

- ***For attic and wall insulation to be eligible for an Energy Saver rebate, attic air sealing and performance testing must be done first.***

Before and after calibrated blower door testing is required to quantify the amount of air leakage and effectiveness of air sealing practices. Blower door testing determines where air sealing is needed and will provide a portion of the data necessary to report energy savings. Both the performance consultant and attic air sealer (if they are not the same contractor) are required to sign and certify the blower door readings and attic air sealing performance respectively.

Below are a number of links of attic air sealers and home performance testers:

Residential Energy Services Network

- www.natresnet.org/directory/raters.aspx

Minnesota Building Performance Association

- mbpa.us/findaconsultant.htm

The Energy Conservatory

- www.energyconservatory.com/cgi-bin/search.pl

OES Weatherization Assistance Providers

- www.state.mn.us/portal/mn/jsp/content.do?id=536893810&subchannel=null&sc2=null&sc3=null&contentid=536918055&contenttype=EDITORIAL&programid=536917722&agency=Energy

Dunwoody - List of persons passing Residential Energy Auditor Exam

- www.dunwoody.edu/pdfs/Passed%20Exam%20by%20City%20080409.pdf

Builders Association of Minnesota Air Sealing/Performance Testing Contractor List

- www.bamn.org/Documents/ProjectReEnergizeQualifiedContractorList.pdf

Insulation-Attic/Walls –

- ***Attic air sealing is required for attic insulation rebate eligibility!***

In order to meet Energy Saver Rebate eligibility, the final R-Value for attics must be not less than R-44. Typical bulk insulation products can qualify such as batts, rolls, blow-in fibers, rigid boards, expanding spray and pour-in-place. The State Energy Code requires that accessible attic bypasses be sealed prior to attic insulation being added.

Exterior wall insulation is also eligible for Energy-Saver rebates as long as attic air sealing is included in the project. Exterior wall cavities must be filled with insulation.

For general information:

- www.energystar.gov
    - Select Home Improvements
    - Select Air Seal and Insulate

Water Heater Replacement –

Water heater replacement is eligible when the existing atmospherically vented water heater is “orphaned” due to a furnace replacement either previously or because of the Energy Saver Rebate process.

An atmospherically vented water heater becomes “orphaned” when it is the last piece of combustion equipment in the mechanical room that relies on a natural draft to vent combustion products out of the house.

Residential high-efficiency power vented or direct vented gas storage water heaters at a minimum Energy Factor of 0.62 are eligible in the Energy-Saver program.
Additionally, residential whole-home gas tankless water heaters at a minimum Energy Factor of 0.82 are also eligible. The minimum gallons-per-minute (gpm) requirement is 2.5 gpm at a 77℉ rise.

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