



Building Efficiency for Commercial Construction

Energy Efficiency Pays. Now More Than Ever.

Program Update — November 2006 *for Commercial Design and Construction Professionals*

Program Activity Update

The number of completed projects has increased significantly from 2005. Through September, incentive payments have tripled from the same period last year. The total energy savings and incentive dollars paid have increased even more.

To help in both the Building Efficiency and Industrial Efficiency programs, mechanical engineer Billie Jo McWinn has joined our team as a program specialist. Billie has been working as a consulting engineer and, most recently, was employed by a national grocery chain.

Remember, the deadline for this year's Building Efficiency applications is December 15, 2006. Contact Billie at (208) 388-5871 if you would like assistance with that process.

2007 Program Preview

Idaho Power is in the process of planning program enhancements for next year. Details are not yet finalized, but the changes look outstanding.

The program will expand to offer incentives for additional measures such as variable speed drives for pumps and fans, and energy management control systems.

We also plan to increase the maximum incentive available from \$20,000 to \$100,000 per project. This higher limit will encourage the inclusion of larger buildings in this energy-saving program.

As currently proposed, specifications for some measures will change and some incentive levels will be adjusted. Some incentives will go up and others will go down. All changes are scheduled to take effect January 2007. Any project with an "expression of interest" will automatically be rolled over to the new program.

2006 BetterBricks Award Winners

Congratulations to Idaho's BetterBricks award winners.

In early October, the BetterBricks awards were presented for individual efforts to support high performance building design and operation in Idaho:

- Owner/Decision Maker—Velma Morrison and Ron Shannon, Harry W. Morrison Foundation
- Designer—Charles Paulin, Musgrove Engineering, and Jon Van Stone, e2co (co-winners)
- Facility Operations—Einar Norton, Boise State University
- Advocate—David Gibney, HDR Architecture
- Special Recognition—Darlene Nemnich, for her efforts promoting energy efficiency and green building programs.

Other finalists were recognized at the event. Both the winners and finalists join an impressive list of those recognized by BetterBricks in both 2004 and 2005.

Upcoming Training Opportunity

The Idaho Environmental Summit will be held at the DoubleTree-Riverside in Boise on December 5-7, 2006. Topics at this forum will cover energy-saving practices at work and home, new energy-saving technologies, Idaho's statewide energy policy, and much more. Details about the Idaho Environmental Summit are available at www.idahoforum.org.

For More Program Information

Do you know of any projects, planned or underway, that may qualify for this incentive? Are the owners or developers unaware of this program? If so, please share this information with them. For answers to other questions, call Curt Nichols at (208) 388-6484.