



# Building Efficiency for Commercial Construction

*Energy Efficiency Pays. Now More Than Ever.*

## Program Update — December 2006 *for Commercial Design and Construction Professionals*

### Happy Holidays!

As we approach the holiday season and the end of the year, all of us at Idaho Power wish to extend our warmest wishes. May you enjoy the season and have a prosperous—and efficient—new year.

### Program Activity Update

The December 15 deadline for 2006 Building Efficiency applications produced a flurry of activity. Of the 40 applications processed for payment to date, we have program incentive payments totaling over \$218,000. These projects will help cut the peak summer load Idaho Power has to serve by more than 330 kilowatts (kW) and save nearly 700,000 kilowatt-hours (kWh) per year.

### Program Enhanced and Expanded for 2007

Last month's Program Update noted that Building Efficiency incentives will be expanded and enhanced in 2007. That bears repeating since there will be some significant changes from the current program.

There are four primary improvements for next year. The incentive payment cap for any single project will increase, more customers will be eligible, more design features will be included, and a pre-application will be required for each project.

**Payment Cap.** Since it was introduced in April 2005, the program's incentive payments were limited to \$20,000 per project. That limit was in place even when the energy-saving design features could have warranted more incentive dollars. That limit has been raised for 2007. The new payment cap will be \$100,000 per project.

**Eligible Customers.** The program was initially not available for commercial-industrial customers with the greatest electric use. Next year, program participation will be opened up to the largest electric-using customers too.

**Design Features Included.** The current program menu will expand from ten to fourteen different design features eligible for incentive payments—four for lighting design, four for air-conditioning, three for the building shell, and three for

controls. Adjustments will be made to some of the requirements to qualify and to some incentive levels.

**Pre-Application.** To date, a pre-application (also referred to as “expressions of interest”) has been encouraged, but not required. For any project that will be completed after this year, Idaho Power will require that a pre-application be submitted before the final application for the incentive payment can be processed.

You can file your pre-application from the Building Efficiency page at Idaho Power's Web site by clicking the “Expression of Interest” link. It will take you to a simple online form that can be used to register your project. Although the 2007 form soon will be available online, using the current form will allow any project a seamless roll-over into next year's program.

If you would like more details on program changes, just go to the Idaho Power Web site (see link at bottom of page) and download the Building Efficiency 2007 Program Preview.

### Upcoming Business Forum to Feature Idaho Power Incentive Programs

Mark your calendar for January 17, 2007. Idaho Power will present an overview of its 2007 commercial and industrial incentive programs at the Idaho Business League (IBL) business forum luncheon held from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. The meeting will be held at the Owyhee Plaza at 1109 W Main St. in Boise. For details, contact the IBL at (208) 323-4464 or e-mail [league@idahobusinessleague.com](mailto:league@idahobusinessleague.com).

### 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.