

Building Efficiency UPDATE

August 2007

Program Activity Update

This month, the Building Efficiency program will make its largest incentive payment to date. Idaho Central Credit Union (ICCU) will be the first applicant to receive the maximum incentive of \$100,000 for the energy efficient measures designed and built into their new facility in Chubbuck. Since April 2005, when the program was introduced, incentive payments have been limited to \$20,000 per project. This year that amount was raised to \$100,000.

The building, which consists predominately of office space, was designed with daylighting, efficient lighting and cooling systems, controls, and other features that will cut their operating costs.

Working with their design team, ICCU obtained daylighting design advice from the Integrated Design Lab in Boise and found that the proposed modifications resulted in savings on their cooling system as well.

The end result is an impressive looking building that also operates efficiently. The building will save an estimated 700,000 kilowatt-hours per year, which is equivalent to the total electricity used in 50 average-sized Idaho homes, and will save ICCU approximately \$35,000 per year.

Pre-Application Required in 2007

Prior to 2007, Building Efficiency pre-applications were encouraged, but not required. Starting this year, Idaho Power requires pre-applications to be submitted before the final applications for incentive payment can be processed.

This new requirement helps our applicants. Once a pre-application is submitted, Idaho Power will send a confirmation e-mail with a project application number in response. This is a valuable opportunity to open a dialogue with Idaho Power early in a project. This dialog ensures that the applicant and their design team are aware of the requirements and qualifications for each incentive. This can virtually eliminate the opportunity for error when it comes to calculating the final incentive amount.

With the electronic application now available on our Web site, it is easier than ever to complete and e-mail your pre-application to Idaho Power.

2007 BetterBricks Awards

The deadline to nominate someone (including yourself) for a BetterBricks Award is fast approaching. All entries must be received by August 31.

These awards recognize architects, engineers, developers, building owners and operators, service providers, facility managers, and other building professionals for their efforts to enhance building energy efficiency throughout Idaho.

If you know someone who has taken extraordinary steps to design, build, engineer, operate, or champion a super energy-efficient commercial building, nominate them for a BetterBricks Award by going to www.betterbricksawards.com.

Upcoming Training and Education

The Boise chapter of the Building Owners and Managers Association (BOMA-Boise) will hold a workshop on the Building Energy Efficiency Program (BEEP) on September 20 and 21 at the Owyhee Plaza Hotel in Boise.

For more details on this workshop or to register, go to <http://www.bomaboise.org>, call (208) 377-5775, or e-mail bae@bomaboise.org.

For More Program Information

Do you know of any commercial or industrial construction projects that could benefit from an energy efficient design? If so, we can send you a brochure titled, "Save Energy, Earn Incentives, and Improve your Bottom Line."

For a copy of the brochure, a program overview, or other details about *Building Efficiency* incentives, e-mail Billie McWinn at buildingefficiency@idahopower.com or call her at (208) 388-5871.