

Easy Upgrades UPDATE

July 2008

Promotional Incentives Offered in Idaho

In the first half of 2008, the energy savings from completed *Easy Upgrades* projects has nearly doubled 2007 energy savings.

While that may be impressive, we are still committed to doing more. Starting this month, Idaho Power is offering a special promotion for energy-saving lighting projects.

Select lighting projects that are completed and documented by December 15 can qualify for up to double the prior incentive amounts.

Talk to your Idaho Power representative or a lighting contractor to see how you can take advantage of these new incentive levels.

Get more details on how you can earn more when you use less at www.idahopower.com/easyupgrades.

Tax Credit Pass-Throughs in Oregon

The promotional lighting retrofit incentives are available only in Idaho; but in Oregon, *Easy Upgrades* lighting projects can receive an up-front cash payment from Idaho Power for what they would earn as a Business Energy Tax Credit (BETC).

BETC offers a state income tax credit worth 35% of the cost for energy-saving investments. Between now and December 15, Idaho Power will be the pass-through partner for those tax credits. We can help you turn your credit into cash.

You can learn more about how to qualify for BETC online at oregon.gov/energy/cons/bus/betc. The Oregon Department of Energy Web site has information on energy loans too.

Online Lighting Calculator Updated

To better analyze both the savings and the incentives available from lighting projects, the *Easy Upgrades* "Lighting Savings Calculator" has been updated.

The improved version can analyze more lighting measures with greater precision and with more useful output. The new Excel-based calculator can be accessed at www.idahopower.com/easyupgrades/LightingCalculator.

Opportunities to Win Awards

The City of Boise has been issuing **EnviroGuard Awards** to local businesses since 1998. These awards recognize environmental and sustainable business practices.

Award categories include energy efficiency, pollution prevention, water conservation, and more. The deadline to apply for this year's EnviroGuard awards is July 25. You can contact the City of Boise for an entry form by sending an e-mail to eguardaward@cityofboise.org.

It's time to think about the 2008 **BetterBricks Awards**, too. These annual awards honor Idaho's champions of high-performance buildings.

A call for nominations has been issued. Local advocates of efficient building design and operation are encouraged to apply. If you know a worthy local efficient building leader, submit a nomination at www.betterbricks.com/awards.

Plan Ahead for Energy Events

The Boise chapter of the Building Owners and Managers Association (BOMA) is planning a Second Annual **Energy Efficiency Workshop** for September. This workshop will focus on new technologies, energy-saving opportunities, local successes, and helpful resources. Details will be available soon on the BOMA Web site, www.bomaboise.org.

The annual Idaho **Energy and Green Building Conference** will be held in Boise in October. The conference will kick off with the unveiling of this year's BetterBricks awards.

This long-running event has become a must-attend forum for policy makers, building designers, and energy efficiency professionals. If you're interested in Idaho's energy future, plan to attend. Event details will be posted online at www.idahocities.org.

For More Program Information

Do you know of any business or industrial facilities that could benefit from updating their lighting, cooling, or other electric systems? If so, we can send you a program overview brochure titled, "Save Energy, Earn Incentives, and Improve your Bottom Line."

For a copy of the brochure, a program overview, or other details about *Easy Upgrades* incentives, e-mail Curt Nichols at easyupgrades@idahopower.com or call him at (208) 388-6484.