

# THE ENERGY EFFICIENCY & RENEWABLE ENERGY TRACKER

A West Virginia News Source

## UTILITIES

### Appalachian Power's Efficient Products Program

Through its Efficient Products Program, Appalachian Power is partnering with retailers to make efficient light bulbs, CFLs and LEDs, more affordable to customers. The program, which offers in-store rebates for light bulbs, also includes mail-in rebates for select EnergyStar appliances. Eligible appliances include: refrigerators, freezers, clothes washers, room air purifiers, dehumidifiers and heat pump water heaters.

CFL and LED stores include: Lowes, Home Depot, Walmart, Sams, Dollar Tree, Big Lots, Ace Hardware, Batteries Plus, Do It Best, Pro Hardware, and True Value. Appliance Rebate Stores include: Best Buy, Big Sandy Superstore, Duvall TV & Appliance, Jeff's Home Appliance, Sears, Home Depot and Lowes.

Learn more at [AppalachianPower.com/Save](http://AppalachianPower.com/Save)



### FirstEnergy Approved to End Most Ohio Energy Efficiency Programs

Following the State of Ohio's decision to freeze state efficiency mandates for two years, FirstEnergy filed a request to end most of its retail efficiency programs. At the end of 2014 the utility will end eight residential programs and six business programs. Two residential and one business program will continue.

Source: Utility Dive

## POLICY TRACKING

### Debate Continues on FERC's Role in Demand Response

The US Court of Appeals for the DC Circuit denied the Federal Regulatory Commission's (FERC) request for a rehearing on Order 745, which would have given FERC the authority to regulate retail demand response (DR) in wholesale markets. The Court's ruling maintains that DR is exclusively the domain of the states. Following the ruling, Senator Heinrich (D-NM) introduced legislation that would grant FERC this authority.

Other recent actions include a lawsuit filed by FirstEnergy to end DR participation in PJM capacity markets. PJM is a regional transmission organization (RTO). FirstEnergy has asked FERC to void capacity auction results, maintaining that DR distorts price signals. The New England Power Generators Association has also filed a formal complaint against ISO New England, asking to have DR resources disqualified from the ISO's 2018/2019 capacity auction.

PJM plans to ask FERC to approve "stop-gap" rules that will allow it to continue offering DR programs until the issue is resolved. PJM has nearly 11,000 MW of demand response committed as capacity resources for the 2017/2018 delivery year, more than any other RTO in the country.

Source: Utility Dive, E&E Publishing, the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette and PJM

## PEOPLE & PLACES

### ACEEE Ranks West Virginia 46th in Efficiency Efforts

The American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy (ACEEE) recently released the eighth edition of its State Scorecard, which ranks states based on efficiency efforts. Massachusetts is ranked first (scoring 42 out of 50) for the fourth year in a row. Kentucky is listed as most improved, along with Arkansas, the District of Columbia and Wisconsin.

West Virginia is ranked 46th for the second year in a row with a total score of 8.5 points out of 50. The State's score in each of the six ACEEE policy areas are:

1. Utility (0 out of 20): due to opt-out ability for large customers, lack of natural gas programs, and low levels of energy savings by current programs despite 77,116 MWh of savings in 2013 from utility programs;
2. Transportation (2.5 out of 9): for new commuter rail services legislation and a reduction in vehicle miles traveled per capita;
3. Building codes and compliance (4 out of 7): for adopting the 2009 building code;
4. Combined heat and power (1 out of 5): as CHP is an energy portfolio eligible resource, even though no new facilities were completed in 2013;
5. Government-led efforts (1 out of 7): for research conducted via WVU's Advanced Energy Initiative;
6. Appliance standards (0 out of 2): because WV has no appliance standards.

ACEEE recommends West Virginia focus on incentivizing the utility sector to invest in energy efficiency.

Source: ACEEE



### The Industrial Assessment Center at WVU

The Industrial Assessment Center at West Virginia University (IAC-WVU) recently partnered with the West Virginia Manufacturing Extension Partnership (WV MEP) to provide Economy, Energy and Environment (E3) assessments to small- and medium-sized businesses. The assessments typically lead to recommendations providing 15% to 25% savings on energy consumed. For example, recommendations for the Mountaineer Casino in New Cumberland, WV resulted in annual savings of 5,269,480 kWh; 2,563 MMBtus of natural gas; and \$324,101.

Since 1991 the IAC-WVU has provided no-cost energy efficiency, waste reduction, and productivity assessments to manufacturers and business in West Virginia and the region. These assessments are funded through United States Division of Energy (USDoe), West Virginia Division of Energy (WVDoE) and other entities. The IAC-WVU also works with utility providers to incorporate rebates and incentives into recommendations. Businesses benefit from the non-biased assessments, and welcome the energy efficiency expertise they usually do not have in-house.

Source: Dr. Gopalakrishnan, IAC-WVU

## PEOPLE & PLACES CONTINUED

### New Vision Renewable Energy's *Ray of Life* Provides Nighttime Light to Families in 32 Countries

New Vision Renewable Energy has developed a portable solar power pack and light. With this technology, service providers and families that live "off-grid" have access to clean and safe light at night. The *Ray of Life* system is a whole-room solar light solution that combines a solar panel, lithium polymer battery and LED lights, and is also available in a DIY kit.

Through its in-country partners in Liberia, New Vision has been able to assist non-electric hospital clinics treating Ebola patients. The organization also produces solar-powered water filtration products and aquaponics. New Vision is located in Philippi, WV and has been producing light kits since 2009.

Source: [nvre.org/lights-and-life.html](http://nvre.org/lights-and-life.html)



## OTHER WV ENERGY NEWS

### Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energy Awards at TransTech Energy Conference

The 2014 TransTech Energy Business Development Conference was held November 12-13 in Morgantown. The event had three winning pitches in the areas of renewable energy and energy efficiency.

- WindPax, LLC of Glen Dale, WV – growth stage design for a collapsible, portable wind turbine to meet remote electricity needs. Design of turbine blades, supporting structures, and generation/ storage interconnection was done at WVU.
- Biobent Holdings, LLC of Columbus, OH – early commercial stage bioplastics technology to replace up to 40% of the petroleum in plastics with waste agricultural feedstock. Based on technology developed by Battelle.
- GreenHeatedGlass of Cowansville, PA - pre-commercial technology with "transparent insulation" products that coat a glass surface with fine metal powder and fuse it to an AC power source. Applications include low-cost radiant heat glass windows. The firm is partnering with Pierpont CTC in Fairmont, WV on workforce training/consultation.

Source: [transtechenergy.org](http://transtechenergy.org)



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Source: PJM regional transmission organization (RTO)  
[pjm.com](http://pjm.com)

## OTHER WV ENERGY NEWS CONTINUED

### Hurricane, WV May Get 1st ASHRAE bEQ Rating in WV

WV ASHRAE (American Society of Heating, Refrigeration and Air-conditioning Engineers) members, Todd Zachwieja and Art Hallstrom, worked with Ben Newhouse, Hurricane City Manager, to perform a Building Energy Quotient (bEQ) In Operation assessment on Hurricane City Hall. The completed assessment was submitted to ASHRAE for a bEQ rating.

The bEQ rating program requires a professional engineer or ASHRAE Certified Professional to assess the building's energy use and indoor air quality. The assessment includes an ASHRAE Level 1 Energy Audit and provides a list of ideas to lower consumption. Once approved, the building will be the first in West Virginia to earn this label.

The ASHRAE bEQ ratings go from A+ to F. The A+ rating represents zero net energy use from outside resources, meaning that it uses equal or less energy than it provides from on-site renewable energy.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### WV ASHRAE Chapter Lunch Meeting



WHEN: Jan 9, 2015 11:30 to 1 PM  
WHERE: Fireside Grille (Teays Valley, WV)  
SUBJECTS: Combined Heat and Power (CHP) Systems and Equipment, Tri-generation and Fuel Cells.

For more information visit [wvashrae.org](http://wvashrae.org).

### 2015 Innovation & Entrepreneurship Day

WHEN: January 28, 2015  
WHERE: The State Capitol (Charleston, WV)  
SUBJECTS: Presentation of the Governor's Awards for Green Advanced Manufacturing and Leadership in Industrial Energy Efficiency.

For more information visit [techconnectwv.org](http://techconnectwv.org).

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