

National and Regional Awards

Every year since its inception in 2000, Connecticut has received top rankings in the annual nationwide *State Energy Efficiency Scorecard* compiled by the American Council for an Energy Efficient Economy for the conservation and load management programs administered by CL&P and UI. Connecticut's efficiency programs have also been repeatedly recognized for excellence by other state and federal agencies, including the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), and the Connecticut Quality Improvement Award Partnership (CQIA).

Connecticut Takes Nation's Top Honor for Energy Efficiency

The ACEEE *2006 State Energy Efficiency Scorecard* released in 2007 ranked Connecticut, along with Vermont and California, as the top states in the national race to adopt energy efficiency policies, programs and technologies. The ACEEE *Scorecard* recognizes those U.S. states that have enacted a range of innovative standards, codes and policies geared to improving national energy security while sustaining economic prosperity and environmental quality.

The ACEEE also bestowed honors in 2007 on individual CEEF programs. Five programs were recognized by ACEEE because of their effectiveness and exemplary approaches in assisting customers improve energy efficiency in their homes and businesses. The award winning CEEF programs administered by CL&P's and UI's C&LM departments in 2007 were: the Energy Conscious Blueprint Program; Small Business Energy Advantage Program; and the Energy Opportunities Program—each received an "Exemplary Program" recognition award. The Process Reengineering for Increased Manufacturing Efficiency (PRIME) Program and the Home Energy Solutions Program both received an "Honorable Mention" award. These programs facilitate energy efficiency through education, planning and technical assistance, and utilize dollar incentives to encourage participation.

Regional Collaboration: Working Together to Improve Energy Efficiency

Connecticut's prominence as an energy-efficiency leader was further advanced during 2007 by continued participation in several regional and national organizations and efficiency initiatives. Organizations in which the ECMB and electric Companies participated included: the ACEEE; the Consortium for Energy Efficiency (CEE); Northeast Energy Efficiency Partnerships (NEEP); and several other utility and public benefit fund organizations.

The most striking example of success in these collaborative efforts has been the approach developed for compact fluorescent bulbs. These bulbs are rebated through a competitive solicitation before they even reach the store shelves. The result is that consumers can purchase high-efficiency bulbs at reduced cost without having to take the extra step of submitting a mail-in rebate coupon.

In 2007, the ECMB and electric Companies continued to actively seek the assistance and involvement of design professionals and trade allies in implementing CEEF programs. In the residential sector, the electric Companies continued their partnerships with the EPA, the DOE, and other efficiency programs built around the ENERGY STAR® brand. These partnerships have led to more stringent efficiency criteria for clothes washers, dishwashers and residential light fixtures.



Northeast Energy Efficiency Partnerships, Inc.

