

CURRENT NEWS

August 2010

PWP RECENTLY INTRODUCED an incentive program to promote solar energy installations in new and existing multi-family affordable housing projects. Complexes where 80 percent of the units are reserved for very low-income residents (household income is at or below 50 percent of the county median) are eligible. The solar system must be connected to these units, as well as to common areas like hallways, recreation rooms, laundry rooms, patios and parking areas. Individual low-income homeowners may also be eligible for the program.

Similar to the California Solar Initiative, PWP local "Affordable Housing Solar Program" offers two incentive types to choose from. Through the Performance Based Incentive (PBI), eligible customers with systems of 1 to 1,000 kilowatts can receive 63 cents per kilowatt-hour of metered output, paid in five annual payments. Eligible customers with systems from 1 to 30 kilowatts can alternatively decide to take the Expected Performance-Based Buydown (EPBB), which pays \$4 per watt installed upfront. (Typical rates for commercial customers are 21 cents per kilowatt-hour or \$1.40 per watt installed.)

Applicants may also apply the rebate to a solar lease agreement or power purchase agreement (PPA). For complete details on the Affordable Housing Solar Program, developers can visit www.PWPweb.com/solar, call our Answerline at (626) 744-6970 or write to solar@cityofpasadena.net

LIVE WIRE DIALOGUE

SUMMER HEAT typically pushes demand for power through the roof, but thus far this summer we've been fortunate with relatively mild temperatures. Will our luck continue? The mercury may return to its "normal" highs in August, which means more air conditioners pumping and PWP's peak load topping 300 megawatts, compared to 190 on an average day.

"We're ready for the demand," said Assistant General Manager Eric Klinkner, "but it's certainly a strain on our system and the environment, and a big expense for Pasadena businesses and residents." The alternative for customers, he said, is energy efficiency and demand reduction, for which PWP provides support and incentives.

PWP recently devised new 10-year goals for taming citywide energy use to meet Pasadena's green objectives and state legislation.

"Pasadena was one of a very few cities that the Natural Resources Defense Council commended for having 'aggressive' goals," he noted, "and PWP plans to back up those goals with an investment of at least \$5 million each year in customer programs."

This pledge to invest even more in customer programs includes generous rebates on energy-efficient equipment, direct-install programs, pilot programs for emerging technology, solar incentives and more.

"We're really tapping into the excitement from our customers and our city's vision for the future," said Klinkner.





DEAR SCOTT



With an MBA from Loyola Marymount, PWP Customer Relations Manager Scott Ushijima has served the city of Pasadena since 1993.

Are we or are we not in a drought?

This year's local rainfall was better than recent years, but drought trends are best framed with a longterm, regional perspective so that we can plan for the future. Pasadena gets its water from three sources: the Colorado River and the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta in Northern California (water imported via the Metropolitan Water District), and local groundwater. Rainfall in Pasadena and up north was about average this year, but the Colorado River had another dry winter. We'll need a few more winters to get the bigger picture. More important, however, the state has restricted pumping from the Delta to protect endangered fish. "It is a challenge unlike any in Metropolitan's 82-year history and will merit a historic response," said MWD Chairman Tim Brick, "PWP is working closely with MWD to develop new sources, enact legislation, eliminate waste and champion conservation.

Is the power plant still out of commission?

A gas turbine (GT-1) caught fire on May 4. Investigators determined that most likely a part broke loose while the unit was running. This lead to damage and heat that ignited lubricant oils. As this turbine model was discontinued several years ago, PWP will likely

need to replace it with comparable equipment or a new unit. PWP is working with the insurance company to pinpoint the best solution. As a precaution after the GT-1 incident, we had voluntarily shut down the gas turbine's twin, GT-2, for the safety of our crew and machinery. After it was thoroughly inspected by industry experts, our crew reassembled, tested and declared the unit operational on June 1. This unit can produce 22 megawatts of power, or about seven percent of our city's summer power needs. PWP is ready to meet the energy needs of its customers during this peak demand month, but encourages all, as always, to maximize their efficiency and reduce demand.

Why does the City hold a hearing on public health goals for water?

PWP's state-of-the-art Water Quality Lab tests for more than 170 contaminants, and our water continually meets all drinking water quality standards. The state's public health goals, which are distinct from mandatory standards, are voluntary and considered long-term targets which water agencies gauge and compare themselves to every three years. While Pasadena's recently published "2009 Consumer Confidence Report on Water Quality" demonstrates that our city's water is safe to drink, in accordance with standards, the level of some contaminants did exceed state goals in a few instances from 2007 to 2009. In such a situation, State law requires us to submit a report and hold a public hearing, which is set for Monday, Aug. 16 at 7:30 p.m. in City Hall's Council Chambers. For a copy of the report, visit www.PWPweb.com/waterquality

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

Rebates & Conservation

Billing & Service

Water Emergencies

Power Emergencies

626.744.6970

626.744.4005

626.744.4138

626.744.4673





CUSTOMER SPOTLIGHT

THE PASADENA POLICE DEPARTMENT is taking aim at energy waste by linking its indoor firing range at Eaton Canyon to the city's Andover system, a sophisticated centralized HVAC control system located at the City Yards on West Mountain Street at the 210 Freeway.



Public Works Superintendent Bill DeShannon and his crew tap into the electrical hardware of onsite HVAC systems via remote to better manage builiding system performance.

Photos: Jennifer Flores

to do so, now joining government offices, libraries and community centers citywide in Pasadena's mission to protect and serve the environment.

The Andover system allows Public Works

The firing range is the

twenty-first city facility

The Andover system allows Public Works Superintendent Bill DeShannon and his crew remote control and customization of HVAC operating schedules for multiple city sites, optimizing their energy efficiency.

On-site sensors and alarm systems monitor and adjust room temperatures, cooling tower evaporation rates and the amount of chill water leaving and returning to HVAC systems. Public Works' HVAC crew can even tap into the system after hours with their laptops and fix any problems via satellite.

In addition to cutting utility costs by 10 to 15 percent, DeShannon says the system also enhances the comfort of employees and visitors, reduces wear-and-tear and extends the life of the city's HVAC equipment, and minimizes expensive emergency repairs. "I'm sure it has cut maintenance costs by 25 to 30 percent," he said. "It more or less takes care of itself."

The Police indoor firing range has even more sophisticated ventilation and air filtration requirements than a typical city

facility, Bill said. Prior to its integration with the Andover system, this facility's air filtration system was in near constant use from purifying the air of emissions released from guns during daily firing practice. Now controls are in place to run the air filtration system only when the firing range is in use.

Sensors have also been installed to make sure air quality is not being compromised by the gun emissions. "If necessary, the HVAC system will go into alarm mode and automatically increase the fan speeds to move more air within the building," DeShannon said.

"[The firing range] is a really high-tech building that relies quite a bit on electricity," said PWP Account Manager Jane Raftis, who worked with Public Works and Police staff tocoordinate the HVAC system upgrades. "Automation was a really smart way to improve the building's efficiency and eliminate waste."

As part of Pasadena's Green City Action Plan, the city trimmed energy use at municipal buildings by 338 megawatt hours in 2009 alone. For more information on commercial energy efficiency programs, visit www.PWPweb.com/YourBusiness



The Pasadena Police Department's cavernous firing range has complex air filtration requirements to expel gas emissions from daily firing practice. Air quality standards are now achieved with greater efficiency.



TIPS FOR BOTTOM-LINE SAVINGS

PWP CUSTOMERS are once again eligible for rebates on water-saving products through the Metropolitan Water District's Save Water, Save a Buck program, which was re-launched June 1.

Open to all commercial, industrial, institutional and multifamily customers, the program provides rebates for installing a range of water-efficient equipment. This includes up to \$50 for high-efficiency toilets, up to \$200 for zero- and ultra-low-flow urinals, \$110 for water brooms (for customers required to wash down surfaces for health and safety reasons), \$485 for connectionless food steamers and \$300 for efficient ice machines. Medical and dental offices can

earn rebates of \$1,900 for steam sterilizers and \$125 for dry-vacuum pumps. Customers can also earn \$625 for cooling tower conductivity controllers, \$1,750 for a pH cooling tower conductivity controller, \$25 per station for weather-based or central-computer irrigation controllers, \$5 per nozzle for rotating nozzles for pop-up sprinklers (25 minimum) and \$10 per set for high-efficiency nozzles for rotary sprinklers.

Funds are limited and rebates are available on a first-come, first-served basis. You must make a rebate reservation before buying any fixtures by visiting www.mwdsaveabuck.com or by calling (877) 728-2282.





PWP Unveils Solar Rebate Program for Affordable Housing Complexes



August 2010

PRSRT STD U.S. POSTAGE **PAID** Pasadena, CA PERMIT # 484

PASADENA CA 91101 150 S LOS ROBLES AVE STE 350 PASADENA WATER & POWER THE CONDUI