



Volume 23 • Number 7 • July 2010

# **2010 AMP Solar Rebates Going Fast!**

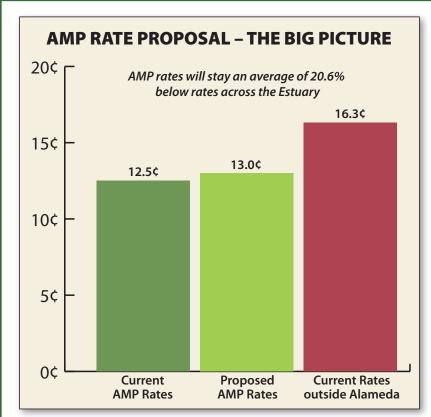
Solar energy is a growing part of AMP's power profile. The solar contribution to Alameda's energy mix from projects within the City is approaching a half a megawatt, enough to meet the needs of almost 200 typical Alameda households.

You can be a part of the solar solution, too! AMP offers substantial rebates that could, when combined with a 30% federal tax credit, pay up to 60% of the cost of a residential solar installation. But more than half of the funds budgeted for the 2010 calendar year already are committed. Once the second half goes, the residential rebate rate will drop by 6%.

So don't stay in the shadows! Be green and save on solar. Visit the AMP web site, www.alamedamp.com to learn more!



In the coming months, we'll be reporting on solar projects such as the Shinsei Gardens complex in the Bayport community, recently completed large commercial installation, a solar plan for the Alameda Main Library, and more.



At its meeting held June 28, the Public Utilities Board considered AMP's proposed Fiscal Year 2011 budget, as well as rate adjustments to support that budget. The proposed adjustments, if adopted, will become effective July 1 and increase the typical monthly household electric bill by approximately \$1.51. Because the meeting was held after press time for this edition of *The FLASH*, please see our web site, www.alamedamp.com, for a report on the Board's actions. Additional discussion of the meeting's outcomes will appear in the next edition of *The FLASH*.

## Helping Low-Income Customers

Alameda Municipal Power offers two programs specifically designed to assist low-income Alameda households, the Energy Assistance Program (EAP) and Project EASE (Energy Assistance through Supportive Efforts).

EAP provides ongoing assistance to qualifying low-income, high-consumption customers. The main objectives of the program are to reduce

# Helping You Control Your Bill

While we work very hard to keep your rates as low as possible, your use ultimately determines how much you pay for electricity each month. Also, Alameda's Public Utilities Board and AMP are committed to energy-efficiency and demand response as the first resource we draw upon to meet your energy needs. That's why AMP offers a wide array of energy-efficiency programs for home and business.

## In the Home

In the home, as in business, knowledge is key in controlling costs.

#### **Online Resources**

Our web site, www.alamedamp. com, offers a full suite of tools, including an "Interactive House;" Home Energy, Appliance, and Compact Fluorescent Lamp replacement calculators; an Energy Library; and even a "Kids Korner" for information to energy users of all ages.

#### **Free Energy Audits**

For those less inclined to "do it yourself," we also offer Free Home Energy Audits. An AMP energy auditor will visit your home and provide a full set of recommendations to manage your energy use and cut costs.

#### **Portable Meter Lending**

AMP can help you find out which appliances are using the most electricity. Check out a portable Helping Low-Income Customers from page 1

the customer's energy use and provide bill assistance by applying a 25% discount to the customer's monthly electric bill. Program highlights include:

- A free energy audit and recommendations
- The installation of up to four compact fluorescent bulbs at no cost
- The replacement of older, inefficient refrigerators meeting certain criteria at no cost (If the household is a rental unit, a contribution from the landlord is required.)
- Weatherization for homes with electric heat.

EAP is funded by AMP's Public Purpose Program. It is administered by the American Red Cross, who determines eligibility. For more information, please call the Red Cross at 814-4200.

Project EASE provides short-term emergency assistance to residential customers who are unable to pay their electrical bills, have no alternative source of assistance, and are facing imminent service disconnection. The program is intended to help after all other resources have been expended. The maximum disbursement for each customer or household is \$200 per year.

Project EASE is funded by voluntary customer contributions and an annual contribution from AMP. The American Red Cross also administers this program and determines eligibility. For more information, please call the Red Cross at 814-4200.

I OWEN CONTENT LADEL		
ENERGY Resources	2009 ALAMEDA System average	2008 TOTAL System Power **
	% of Load*	(for comparison)
Eligible Renewable	61%	11%
-Biomass and Waste	16%	2%
-Geothermal	38%	5%
-Small Hydroelectric	1%	1%
-Solar	0%	<1%
-Wind	6%	2%
Coal	0%	18%
Large Hydroelectric	16%	11%
Natural Gas	2%	46%
Nuclear	0%	14%
Other	0%	
Unspecified	22%	
Annual Total	100%	100%

POWER CONTENT LARFI

- \* Percentages may not add up to 100% due to rounding.
- \*\* Percentages are based on the California Total System Power

For specific information about this electricity product, contact **Alameda Municipal Power**. For general information about the Power Content Label, contact the California Energy Commission at 1-800-555-7794 or www.energy.ca.gov/consumer.

## Control Your Bill from page 1

meter, and see for yourself via our Meter Lending Program.

## Appliance Rebates and Weatherization

#### **Refrigerators**

Here in Alameda, refrigerators are typically the biggest electricity users in the home. AMP offers you two programs to reduce your home refrigeration costs:

## **Energy Star Refrigerator Rebate** and Recycle Program

The Energy Star Refrigerator Rebate and Recycle Program will give you \$100 rebate when you buy a new, more energy-efficient refrigerator and recycle your old unit. (Right now, you can get a TRIPLE rebate—that's \$300—from AMP and the California Cash for Appliances Program.)

### **Second Refrigerator**

You can get another \$35 rebate just for having that old, dusty, expensive second refrigerator in your garage picked up and recycled under our Second Refrigerator Pickup Program.

Households have even more energy-saving opportunities:

#### Lighting

Want to make some quick money? Switch to compact fluorescent lamps. They use 75% less electricity and last 10 times longer. AMP sponsors Compact Fluorescent Trade-In Programs at various venues throughout the year.

## Weatherization

If you use electricity for home heating, the AMP Home Weatherization Cash Grant Program can pay up to 70% of the materials costs to insulate your home.

#### In Business

Alameda businesses can take advantage of several unique, tailored energy-savings programs.

#### **ReAMP**

ReAMP, our commercial energy-efficiency program for small- and medium-size business customers, starts with a free energy audit of your business, follows up with special incentives to lower energy-efficiency upgrade costs, and can provide ongoing, long-term energy savings of as much as 25% or more.

## Rebates

Five more business energyefficiency rebate programs will help you manage your energy costs:

### Lighting

Our Commercial Lighting program covers nine lighting technologies, will improve lighting quality (boosting productivity and sales), and lower your energy bills by 25% or more.

#### **HVAC**

The HVAC program covers three technologies and can save you up to 35% in system energy costs.

#### **New Construction**

AMP's New Construction program offers design assistance grants, a "whole building" approach and a "building systems" approach, with owner incentives of up to \$10,000 per project to help pay for the investment.

## **Advanced Technology**

Through the AMP Advanced Technology program, rebates are available for newer technologies in early stages of commercialization, based on annual energy savings. You save money, help prove the technology, and educate your fellow customers.

## **CLIP and KEEP!**

The FLASH is published as a service to the customer-owners of Alameda Municipal Power. Readers are invited to submit ideas, suggestions, comments, or questions by writing to the editor at Alameda Municipal Power, P.O. Box H Alameda, CA, 94501-0263 or by email to

mccabe@alamedamp.com.

## PUBLIC UTILITIES BOARD

Gregory Hamm, Ph.D, P.E., President Ann L. McCormick, P.E., Vice President Peter W. Holmes, Commissioner John R. McCahan, Commissioner Ann Marie Gallant, Interim City Manager

## ALAMEDA MUNICIPAL POWER

Girish Balachandran, General Manager

#### **Customized**

The Customized Energy-Efficiency Rebate Program is designed to assist commercial customers who install energy-efficiency equipment that may not qualify under other rebate programs, such as compressed air systems and server virtualization.

Don't forget, both homes and businesses can take advantage of AMP's Solar Rebate Program. Combine an AMP rebate with tax incentives, and as much as 60% of home or small business installation costs could be covered! Larger installations are eligible for performance-based incentives.

For more information on all of these programs, please check out the AMP web site, www. alamedamp.com. During the next fiscal year, we will be evaluating our energy-efficiency programs to ensure that they continue to meet your needs and expectations. We welcome your feedback!

Designed by Paredes Design Associates, www.paredes.cc