

Maine Public Utilities Commission

NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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MPUC Re-Opens Solar Rebate Program

*Incentives for Qualifying Residences and
Small Businesses Are Now Available*

AUGUSTA, Maine - The Maine Public Utilities Commission is pleased to announce that it has re-opened the program that provides cash rebates for the installation of qualifying solar energy systems on Maine homes and small businesses.

“We are delighted to be able to respond to the high demand for this program,” said Sharon M. Reishus, who chairs the Commission. “Solar power on homes and small businesses is part of the solution to our energy challenges. In addition, this program will generate some welcomed economic activity in the state.”

New federal funds from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, together with another year’s funding from existing state sources, enable the Commission to begin accepting applications for the rebates as the installation season begins.

Residential and commercial thermal incentives are set at 25% of the cost of a qualifying system, with a cap of \$1,000. The incentive for photo-voltaic systems is \$2 per watt, with a cap of \$2,000.

To protect customers, the Commission requires that they “reserve” their rebates before installation. An advance reservation ensures that customers who purchase a system know in advance that their rebate will be there for them after installation is complete.

To be eligible, the installation must be performed by a professional certified by the Maine Public Utilities Commission. Applications and further instructions are available through EfficiencyMaine.com.

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The Maine Public Utilities Commission is committed to ensuring that consumers have access to safe and reliable service for public utilities and that the rates for these utilities are just and reasonable. PUC programs include Maine Enhanced 911 Service, Dig Safe, and Efficiency Maine.

To arrange an interview with Chairman Reishus, Commissioner Vandeau Vafiades or Commissioner Jack Cashman, please contact John Brautigam at 207.287.1594 or by e-mail at John.R.Brautigam@Maine.gov. The Commission’s website, www.maine.gov/mpuc/ may be accessed through the Maine School and Library Network at all public libraries in Maine.