

# Multi-Family Building Efficiency

## Frequently Asked Questions

CenterPoint Energy and Xcel Energy have joined forces to help multi-family building owners in Minnesota identify and address energy efficiency opportunities by offering the Multi-Family Building Efficiency program. With such a unique offering, we've identified answers to questions to help you determine if this program is a good approach to energy savings for your building(s).

**Q: What are the qualifications to participate in the Multi-Family Building Efficiency program?**

**A:** Your building qualifies if your multi-family property in Minnesota receives electric service from Xcel Energy and natural gas service from CenterPoint Energy or Xcel Energy, and has a common entrance, common areas and in-unit kitchens.

**Q: What happens if insufficient projects are identified through the audit?**

**A:** It will not be possible to receive an incentive through the Multi-Family Building Efficiency program, but you may qualify for money-saving prescriptive or custom rebates either from CenterPoint Energy or Xcel Energy.

**Q: There are things in my building I think will save a lot of energy. Will they qualify for an incentive?**

**A:** All projects must be cost effective based upon tests performed for all utility rebate programs. As a result, there may be projects that could save some energy but do not pass the cost effectiveness test and therefore cannot be included in the bundle to receive an incentive. What this means is the amount of energy that could potentially be saved is too low for the cost of the project.

**Q: Will I still be able to get rebates if we are not able to reach a 15% energy reduction (Tier I)?**

**A:** Yes, individual projects may still be eligible for prescriptive or custom rebates from CenterPoint Energy and Xcel Energy.

**Q: If I am already doing an energy efficiency project, can it count towards the 15% savings reduction?**

**A:** Only projects that have started after (have not taken action to procure materials) the date of the audit are eligible to be counted toward the 15% savings reduction.

**Q: How long do we have to complete projects? When does the "clock" start?**

**A:** You will have up to two years from the date of the audit to finish.

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*Energy efficiency solutions for multi-family buildings brought to you by CenterPoint Energy and Xcel Energy.*



844-545-7455

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**Q: What are our costs to participate in this program?**

**A:** The audit, direct install, and project management (or consultation) services are provided to you at no cost through this program. However, reaching the minimum 15% savings reduction milestone for an incentive will require that you invest in the energy efficiency upgrades identified in the audit—such as a boiler or cooling system equipment upgrade.

**Q: When do I get my project rebates? (Will it be a lump sum at the end of project, or paid out more frequently?)**

**A:** Once the 15% milestone has been met and all installations have been verified, you may elect to receive an incentive for projects completed to-date. If you continue with energy efficiency upgrades to your buildings—after you have hit the next tier level—you will receive an even higher incentive payment (for incremental work completed). To qualify, all work must be completed within two years of the audit.

**Q: Can I sign up more than one building to participate in this program?**

**A:** Yes, but each building is separately evaluated for eligibility into this program.

**Q: If the resident has a special kitchen faucet/showerhead, will that be replaced?**

**A:** The direct install will only apply to building-owned fixtures; resident-owned fixtures will not be changed.

**Q: Are there dimmable CFL bulbs available for the direct install?**

**A:** Not at this time.

**Q: What if certain residents do not want to participate in the direct install?**

**A:** To maximize the most energy savings potential, we encourage all residents to participate. However, we realize there are situations that may result in some owners allowing residents to opt out of the direct install. This is a decision in which the owner has direct input.

**Q: Where can I receive spec sheets/descriptions of the items being installed, including warranty information?**

**A:** We can provide this information upon request.

## Ready to get started?

Feel free to call the program implementer, Energy Insight, at 844-545-7455 for answers to your specific questions and to receive an application.

