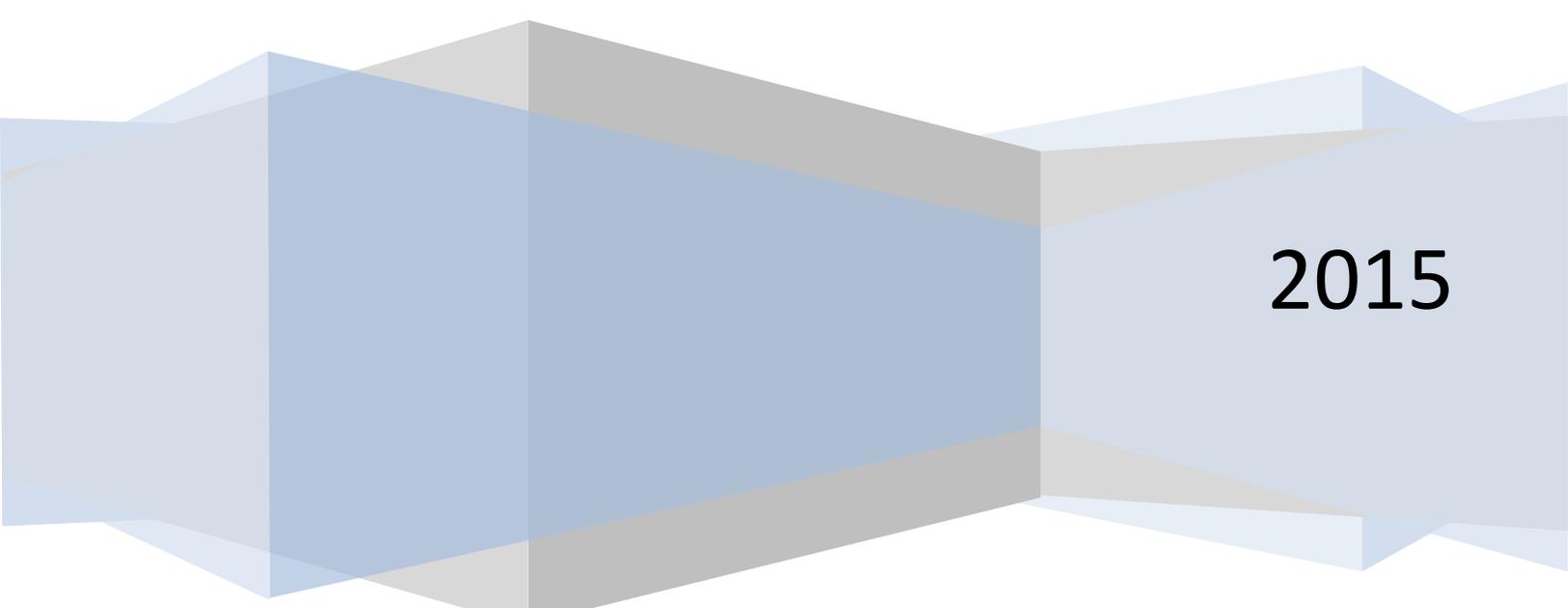


Magic Valley Electric Cooperative, Inc.

**State Energy Conservation
Office
SB-924
Energy Efficiency Report**



2015

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State Energy Conservation Office Energy Efficiency Report

Magic Valley Electric Cooperative, Inc. Energy Efficiency Programs

This brief summary describes the energy efficiency activities at Magic Valley Electric Cooperative, Inc. MVEC demonstrates its commitment to energy efficiency activities by investing in activities that educate the MVEC membership about the benefits of energy conservation.

Residential

A/C & Heat Pump Rebate Program

MVEC offers its Members a rebate program for the replacement of existing central heat pump, central conventional, and central dual-fuel air conditioning systems for single family dwellings. MVEC will pay rebates based on the efficiency of the installed unit. MVEC will also give weatherization recommendations in order to further improve the efficiency of the home. The payment schedule is as follows:

Single Family				
	Heat Pump		Conv. A/C	
S.E.E.R.	Owner	A/C Dealer	Owner	A/C Dealer
14.0 – 14.99	\$300	\$50	\$225	\$40
15.0 – 15.99	\$350	\$50	\$250	\$40
>16.0	\$400	\$50	\$275	\$40

Rebates paid

2010 - \$16,365

2011 - \$10,805

2012 - \$16,060

2013 - \$25,065

2014 - \$28,840

A/C Tune Up Program

During 2014 MVEC launched an A/C tune up rebate program aimed at helping residential members reduce their energy consumption. MVEC partnered up with various local A/C contractors and offered a \$100 rebate to members who performed a tune up on their HVAC system. The program has proven to be a huge success as we have seen members become aware of the importance of servicing their HVAC units. Last year MVEC paid a total of \$20,800 in rebates for this program.

Energy Audits

MVEC performs residential energy audits upon request by the Member. MVEC will visually inspect the thermal integrity of the structure, heating and cooling equipment, water heating, and other energy-using equipment, and recommends energy efficient improvements. MVEC also provides a copy of the U.S. Department of Energy - Energy Savers Booklets, in English or Spanish, and a copy of the Touchstone Energy Home Energy Savings Guide, to help educate consumers and help them conserve energy in their home.

Marathon Water Heater Program

In June 2011, MVEC launched its Marathon Water Heater sales program. Members can purchase an energy efficient unit at headquarters and, once installed, may qualify for a \$150 rebate. The units are well insulated and allow for very little heat loss compared to a standard water heater because of the materials used and the way it is manufactured. MVEC is actively marketing them towards residential home builders.

Water heater sales

2011 - 9

2012 - 17

2013 - 30

2014 - 15

Heat Pump Water Heater Program

MVEC also incentivizes this fairly new technology. The Cooperative provides a \$250 rebate per installation and paid out four rebates in 2014. We hope that in the future, more Members will invest in this innovative way of heating household water

New Home Construction

MVEC assists Members and Builders with energy efficiency design principles that will influence energy conservation measures during the construction phase of the structure. MVEC currently participates in the EPA's Energy Star program and markets the program as the MVEC Energy Star for New Homes program. In 2014, 39 builders were registered for our program and 116 homes were incentivized for building more efficiently than standard building code. Total rebates paid out for these energy conservation measures were \$37,880.

MVEC is also an active member in the Rio Grande Valley Home Builders Association and the Lower Rio Grande Valley Builders and Developers Association. MVEC participates in the annual Rio Grande Valley Home Show, where staff provides energy conservation materials and consultation to Members that are planning to build a new home or making energy improvements to their existing home.

Community Presentations

MVEC routinely provides speakers that will present energy conservation programs to civic clubs, housing authorities, community action agencies, chambers of commerce, and educational institutions in the Rio Grande Valley.

Conservation Advertising

Magic Valley Electric Cooperative provides media advertising in order to educate its members about energy efficiency and conservation. Magic Valley Electric produces radio and TV commercials internally and utilizes Touchstone Energy National Campaign commercials, which are produced in English and Spanish. MVEC also mails each member, on a monthly basis, a copy of The Texas Co-op Power Magazine. The Texas Co-op Power magazine features articles, local stories, and current events dealing with energy conservation, electrical safety, home energy tips, and energy efficiency.

Commercial / Industrial

Commercial Energy Audits

MVEC performs commercial energy audits upon request of the Member. Trained personnel will visually inspect the HVAC equipment, controls, ventilation, indoor and outdoor lighting, water heating, and other energy-using equipment. Our energy audit team will recommend energy efficiency measures to help commercial/industrial users manage energy costs.

Conservation Activities

Distributed Generation (Renewable Resources)

Magic Valley Electric Cooperative recognizes that its Members may be interested in purchasing and operating small generating systems to provide electricity for their home or business. MVEC has developed a Distributed Generation Procedures and Guidelines Manual for Members that provide details of the process to interconnect to MVEC facilities.

Facilities classified as 50 kW of connected generation and smaller

As part of the interconnection process, Member's must have a special electronic meter installed on their premises. For power produced in excess of on-site requirements, the Member shall be compensated by net metering. The net meter allows the Member to use the electricity they generate first, reducing what they would normally buy from MVEC. If Member generates more electricity than they use, the excess goes through the electric meter and into the grid. The meter shows the net amount, measured as the difference between the electricity they generate to the utility and the electricity they purchase from MVEC.

Facilities classified as greater than 50 kW and less than 700 kW of connected generation

Determination of billing shall be accomplished by interconnection through two meters with one measuring all energy supplied by the Cooperative and the other measuring all energy supplied by the Member. The Member shall be compensated for energy supplied by the Member at the Cooperative's avoided wholesale power cost. The avoided wholesale power cost shall be defined as the average monthly energy and fuel cost per kWh purchased from the Cooperative's wholesale power supplier during the current billing period.

MyResponse

MVEC's demand response program, under the brand of MyResponse, was launched during 2014 as a way of lowering peak demand during summer months. Members can enroll in the program by having MVEC install an ecobee programmable thermostat at the residence and agreeing to have MVEC take control of their HVAC unit during peak demand times. During peak demand times, MVEC would cycle the member's condenser for a certain amount of time in order to reduce peak consumption. This program was launched as a pilot during 2014 and we have had a great response from our members. Although load reduction data is currently unavailable, we anticipate that 2015 will provide us the data needed to analyze the impact of this program.