DCAS Division of Energy Management

Energy Updates

April 2010

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Fill-in URIF available in Excel format

For your convenience, we have created a fill-in Utility Request for Information Form (URIF) in Excel format, attached to this message and posted online at www.nyc.gov/energy-conservation. Please use this instead of the Word or print versions that you have used in the past. As you probably know, DEM uses this information to inform the utility company of the electricity, gas or steam meter or account action you request. While this form looks different, it asks the same questions – but expands the possible reasons for requesting the change. Please use Excel to fill it out; then save it and email it back as an attachment. Please be sure that the address, meter and account numbers, and Borough-Block-Lot numbers are accurate. URIFs should continue to be emailed to Marilyn Steeps at msteeps@dcas.nyc.gov. Remember that URIFs must be accompanied by a signed letter on agency letterhead referring to the request; for new accounts, the agency's letter must accept responsibility for the account.

Information on NYPA's new Peak Load Management program

Please see the attached memo (also posted at www.nyc.gov/energy-conservation) about NYPA's expanded Peak Load Management Program. **The deadline for signing up for the summer 2010 Peak Load Management program beginning June 1st is TODAY, April 26th**. If you miss the deadline today, you have until June 1st to sign up for the program beginning July 1st. Please contact Peter Giasemis at NYPA (914-390-8042) or Laura Lee at DCAS (212-669-3361) with questions.

Reminder: CFL discount expires April 30th

The Home Depot is making it easier for City employees to go green by offering a $1 discount on compact fluorescent light bulbs (CFLs). CFLs are more energy efficient and cost efficient than traditional incandescent bulbs. You can visit nyc.gov/GreeNYC to learn more about the benefits of switching to CFLs and other tips for living more sustainably at home, work and on the go. **The CFL offer expires this Friday April 30th**, so be sure to take advantage of this discount before it's too late! Please also share the link with your NYC colleagues. Follow the link to enter your e-mail address, and the coupon will be e-mailed to you: http://pages.homedepot.com/CFLbulbs?source=GreenNYC.

What to expect at this year's Annual Energy Team meeting June 17th

This year's Annual Energy Team meeting will be held from 9am to noon on Thursday, June 17th at 2 Washington Street. A light breakfast will be served. Highlights to include:

- A review of accomplishments over the past year
- Preliminary findings of benchmarking analysis
- Previews of new energy management tools – SEPTS and EC3
- Pipeline audit, retrofit, and clean DG projects for FY 2011 – who's doing what?
- What to expect for 2011

Please mark your calendars and watch for more details!

Spotlight on: Solar Thermal at FDNY

Solar thermal for hot-water (SHW) is a renewable energy application that harnesses heat from the sun to provide hot-water and heating in buildings. SHW systems are relatively straightforward to retrofit into buildings, can store heat for use at night, and even produce energy on cloudy days. With minimal maintenance and reasonable paybacks, SHW in the right application can offer a creative and cost-effective way to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

How does it work?

As shown in the photo to the right, each of the two solar collectors is made up of thirty high-efficiency, twin glass evacuated tubes. A transfer liquid absorbs the heat collected by the tubes and circulates it through a series of insulated pipes to a hot-water storage tank. Glycol, an anti-freeze fluid, is used as the heat transfer fluid instead of water to allow the system to operate year round.

In the summertime, a solar hot water system is typically expected to fully meet the hot water needs of a facility. In the winter, a natural gas-fired hot water heater serves as back-up. The solar hot water storage tank pre-heats the water, and the gas-fired tank raises it to a final temperature between 120 and 124 degrees F.

The New York Fire Department (FDNY) is leading the City's deployment of this technology through its pilot of SHW at Emergency Medical Station (EMS) 19 in the Bronx, shown to the left. Installation of two 30-evacuated tube collectors, piping, and hot-water storage tank was completed by FDNY in January 2009. Even in spite of a colder winter, the system saved 1,275 therms of natural gas and nearly $2,000 dollars in its first year of operation.

Building on these successes, the City has applied for and was awarded funds for SHW systems at five additional firehouses in Far Rockaway and has applied for $425,124 to fund 13 more installations. Design for the five grant-funded systems and a large installation at Department of Parks and Recreation's St. Mary's Recreation Center in the Bronx are underway. In June, FDNY will complete another installation at Engine Company 298, for a total of eight systems in the works.