

Empowering you to make smart energy choices

Low Income Demand Response Heat Pump Water Heater Pilot

Presented at the 2019 ACEEE Hot Water Forum

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Energy Efficiency Fund Background



Objectives

- To advance the efficient use of energy
- To reduce air pollution and negative environmental impacts
- To promote economic development and energy security.
 - \$2.30 in electric system benefits for every \$1 invested in energy efficiency



Home Energy Solutions – Income Eligible (HES-IE)

- In-home, direct installation weatherization program offered to income eligible customers at no cost
 - Customer's income must be at or below 60% of the state median income ("SMI")
- Each visit provides a comprehensive energy assessment and direct install measures

- Vendors are required to evaluate homes for all upgrade opportunities including:
 - Insulation
 - Wall, attic, and basement
 - Windows
 - Heating and cooling systems
 - Water heaters
 - Appliances

**Services valued at \$1,000



Purpose of Pilot

- Low income customers pay a disproportioned amount on their energy bills in comparison to market rate customers
- Low income customers rarely take advantage of add-on measures if a co-payment is required
- UI is attempting to reduce low income customers' energy bills via upgrading electric resistance water heaters with heat pump water heater technology (HPWH)



Why Heat Pump Water Heaters?

- Water heaters are the second highest source of energy usage in a home
- ENERGY STAR[®] HPWH can help reduce energy bills by up to 50%
- Heat pump water heaters are one of the most energy-efficient water heating systems on the market today
- Heat pump water heaters dehumidify damp spaces such as a basement or unconditioned space



What is the Heat Pump Water Heater Pilot?

- Eligible customers will have access to an ENERGY STAR HPWH at no cost!
 - UI will cover material and labor costs
- Customers receiving a HPWH with Wi-Fi connectivity in their home may be enrolled in UI's Demand Response program
- Ul's contractor, Hubbell, will install HPWHs
- Hubbell will be responsible for all HPWH customer education
 - Will also warranty labor & material for first year



What Heat Pump Water Heaters will customers receive?

- Rheem HPWHs were chosen for this pilot for the following reasons:
 - ENERGY STAR model
 - Wi-Fi capability
 - 10 year warranty
- Customers will receive a 50 gallon or 65 gallon HPWH.
 - We'll match existing water heater sizes.





Whose Eligible?

- Single family and MF 2-4 units homes
- HES-IE customers owners and renters alike
 - Renter occupied units, landlord must provide approval prior to installation.
- Homes with existing electric resistance water heating
- Installed location must be at least 750 cu ft. in volume
- Clear access to and around the existing water heater



Initial Assessment

- 5 key points captured during HES-IE's initial visit.
- These points help UI determine if the customer is approved for a HPWH
- Vendors submits assessment & pictures to UI for approval
- If approved sent to Hubbell for install

2017 HOME ENERGY SOLUTIONS - INCOME ELIGIBLE HEAT PUMP WATER HEATER ASSESSMENT FORM

Customer Name:	Date:
Address:	Town:
Best Phone #:	Email:
Account #:	Project #:
1. Is the water heater a United Illuminating (UI) Electric Water Heater Rental?: Pres INO	
If no, what is the circuit rating that serves the heater:	
 Is the intended installed location at least 750 cu ft. (10'x12'x6' high) in volume? ❑ Yes □ No 	
 Is there free and clear access to the water heater? Yes I No If no, customer must remedy prior to installation. 	
 Confirm desired water heater size and verify sufficient clearance is available: □ 50 Gallon HPWH is 23" Dia. x 66" High □ 65 Gallon HPWH is 24 ¼" Dia. x 70" High 	
Please take pictures of the existing water heater, space around the water heater, drain, and the basement to support the upgrade proposal.	
Customer Name:	Customer Signature:
HES-IE Contractor Name:	Phone #:
Comments:	
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Install Process

- Hubbell contacts customer to set-up assessment prior to install
 - Check scope of work for electrical needs
 - Ensure there is clear space
 - Asses Wi-Fi access in basement
 - Make an install plan with the customer
- After install, Hubbell educates customer on unit & usage
 - In addition to manual & walk through, provide benefits sheet



Results of 2018 Pilot

- Evaluated 108 homes
- Installed 65
 - 90% sign up for Demand Response
- Continuing pilot HPWH offering to qualifying customers
- Working to make it a permanent part of our program



Pilot Savings & Cost

- 91,505
 - Annual Savings
- **1**,189,656
 - Lifetime Savings over
 13 year life

• \$1,200

- Average of 65 gallon
 HPWH in CT
- **\$**2,681
 - Average blended for both 55 & 65 gallon installed
- \$174,283
 - Total for 65 installed HPWHs



Questions?

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