

ENERGY EFFICIENCY RESOURCE STANDARD

What you need to know about New Hampshire's EERS

One of New Hampshire's economic engines is getting a boost with the start of a new **Energy Efficiency Resource Standard (EERS)**. Utilities, state agencies, businesses and advocates all came together this year to develop a new energy efficiency framework that strengthens our state's commitment to reducing energy costs and helps keep New Hampshire's energy dollars from leaving the state economy. **The EERS is a victory for all ratepayers and will lower overall rates.**

The new EERS establishes specific targets for energy savings that utilities must meet. By 2020, New Hampshire will realize cumulative energy savings equal to 3.1 percent of 2014 electric sales and 2.25 percent of 2014 natural gas sales.

Those savings will build upon the utilities' hugely popular, award-winning "NHSaves" CORE programs that help customers reduce energy by using new technologies and practices. These programs are available to ALL customers.

ABOUT THE PROGRAMS

- They are open access and equitable, serving customers on a first-come, first-served basis
- They are very popular and highly demanded - many run out of funds mid-year. New EERS investments will relieve the stop/start business cycle that hurts jobs and job growth.
- The new energy efficiency framework makes more available to lower-income families
- The new framework makes a wide range of incentives (not subsidies) available to help families, businesses, municipalities and non-profits take advantage of cost-saving energy efficiency technologies and projects
- Even those who don't choose to participate will benefit through shared avoided distribution, transmission, and generation costs, including peak demand savings.

Efficiency is the **CHEAPEST** form of energy, and the savings and value are **REAL** and **QUANTIFIABLE**, as defined by rigorous cost-benefit economic standards. The new energy efficiency standard provides New Hampshire families, businesses, towns, and institutions an opportunity to reduce their utility bills, achieve long-term savings that result in system-wide cost-reductions, improve the comfort and safety of our buildings, and increase economic activity in the state.

