

# COLUMBUS<sup>®</sup> CURRENTS

## CEC BOARD APPROVES 2016 ENERGY EFFICIENCY PROGRAMS

The Cooperative's Energy Efficiency Programs



have been in place since the 1990's and are intended to encourage and reward energy efficiency purchases and energy use practices. We are happy to report that our power supplier Tri-State Generation & Transmission Association for 2016 will once again partner in the programs we offer to members. As a result following is a list of the programs available to our members:

**Electric water heaters** are available for sale to members only at our office

- 40 gallon /\$50
- 50 gallon /\$60

**Refrigerator, freezer, clothes washer and dishwasher rebates** - a complete list of qualifying equipment is available at [www.energystar.gov](http://www.energystar.gov);

- \$30/unit, refrigerators or freezers
- \$60/unit additional for refrigerator/freezer recycling
- \$40/unit for front load clothes washers
- \$30/unit for top load clothes washers
- \$20/unit for dishwashers
- \$30 for clothes dryers
- \$90 for heat pump clothes dryers

### Electric heat pump

- \$125/ton with electric resistance backup
- \$150/unit additional incentive for Energy Star rated units above 16 seer (air source)
- \$100/unit additional incentive for Energy Star rated units from 1 to less than 3 tons (ground source)
- \$100/unit additional incentive for Energy Star rated units from 15 seer to 16 seer (air source)

### Premium efficiency electric motors

- Maximum motor size 500 hp
- Limited to irrigation motors and special purpose motors not covered by EISA 2007
- Table available listing minimum motor efficiencies
- Minimum 10-horsepower, operating at minimum of 15% load factor or 3 months per year.



### Motor Rebate Amount

- \$8/horsepower from 10 through 500 horsepower
- \$1.50/horsepower wiring assistance if the motor replaces a fossil-fueled engine, or is a new installation

### Variable speed drive (VSD) retrofit

Only retrofits to existing installations, no new and no maintenance replacements

**Restrictions do apply for more information go to [columbusco-op.org](http://columbusco-op.org) or call our office.**

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*This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.*

## ***Arizona Corporation Commission Opens***

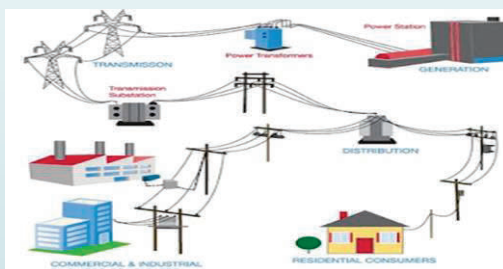
### ***Docket on Net Metering Issues***

*On December 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2013, the Arizona Corporation Commission issued Decision No 74202 and as part of that Decision, ordered that a generic docket be opened on net metering issues and that workshops be held with all stakeholders to help inform future Commission policy on the value that Distributed Generation brings to the grid.*

*Columbus Electric, even though we only serve approximately 500 customers in Arizona, is required to participate in this Docket, and as a result **our Arizona members will be receiving an insert announcing a “Public Notice of Generic Hearing” with this month’s bill.***

*In case 74202, the Arizona Public Service Company requested approval for a Net Metering Cost Shift Solution. Several parties intervened in the case with both sides making arguments on whether there is, or is not, a cost shift between customer classes as a result of net metering. It is important to mention that Columbus was not a party to that case, merely an observer.*

*The discussion has always been, that the electric grid is a complex system of power plants, transmission lines, substations and distribution lines that transmit electric power from the place where it’s generated – all the way to consumer-members at the end of the line. Today some power comes from consumer- members themselves who are generating power using solar panels or small wind turbines. But does this mean they are ready to go “off the grid”*



*In truth, while these technologies are environmentally friendly and harness natural resources, they typically do not provide enough power to meet all the individuals’ energy needs.*

*Think about it: Some days the sun doesn’t shine. Some days, the wind doesn’t blow. These customers by remaining connected to the grid have a supply of reliable power if and when they need it. The debate revolves around net metering customers benefit from a reliable electric grid and whether they pay a fair share of cost.*

*Columbus Electric does not anticipate making a filing in this proceeding nor do we plan a rate case in 2016, but we will watch with interest as we are concerned to what extent the findings in this docket will have on future rate cases.*



### **Tip of the Month**

Save energy and money by lowering your water heater thermostat to 120 degrees Fahrenheit. This will also slow mineral buildup and corrosion in your water heater and pipes.

Source: [energy.gov](http://energy.gov)

*Emergency Response Number*  
**1-800-228-0579**

*Toll - free Office Number*  
**1-800-950-COOP (2667)**