



Save energy. Save money. Live comfortably. Go green.

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TUESDAY 3, APRIL 2012

## Happy 3rd Anniversary to SCEIP!

SCEIP was launched on March 25, 2009 and just celebrated three years of providing financing for energy and water efficiency and renewables to Sonoma county property owners. In the past three years, SCEIP has:

- Financed projects on 1635 residential properties totalling \$45.7 million
- Financed projects on 51 commercial properties, totalling \$9.9 million
- Helped reduced over 4,650 tons of eCO<sub>2</sub> (greenhouse gasses)
- Financed 7.7 MW of Solar PV installations
- Funded local jobs in 79% of financed projects
- Created 683 jobs, 72 of which are local to Sonoma County



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## Also this month

### Coming Events

**[Day on the Green - Earth Day Celebration](#)** Saturday, April 14 11 am - 4 pm at Montgomery Village, Santa Rosa

**[Municipal Forum "Everything You Wanted to Know About PACE Financing" Q&A](#)** Wednesday, April 18 at noon via ReadyTalk. Register [here](#).

**[Contractor Forum](#)** Friday, April 20 8:30 am - 10:00 am @ SCEIP and via ReadyTalk. Register [here](#).

**[Santa Rosa Earth Day](#)** Sunday, April 22 noon to 4 pm in Courthouse Square

After celebrating SCEIP's third year, the Sonoma County Board of Supervisors approved a change in SCEIP's staffing plan to move away from the use of Extra Help (or temporary) staff and commit to permanent staff. We are very excited to continue supporting Sonoma County in our goal to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and educate the public on how to accomplish this goal, in addition to creating local jobs and generating revenue for local businesses. SCEIP is here to stay!

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## SCEIP Program Changes effective April 1, 2012

The Sonoma County Board of Supervisors approved the SCEIP staff recommendation to modify program requirements including removal of the 10% efficiency requirement for generation projects. Effective April 1, 2012, there will be no requirement to complete energy efficiency work before SCEIP can fund a renewable energy generation project, such as solar. There is a new requirement for ALL residential applicants to view a 3 minute [Energy 101: Home Energy Assessment video](#) and complete an Action Plan using SCEIP's

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## Connect with us



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## Contact Us

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new Action Plan tool (see "My Action Plan" below).

Effective 3/31/12, the Energy Analysis rebate program comes to an end. This has been a fabulous opportunity for property owners to get science-based information on their homes. HERS II Raters and BPI Contractors have completed over 600 energy analyses using the rebate program, and have educated property owners on the "home as a system" concept and how to make the most effective efficiency improvements.

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## "My Action Plan": 3 simple steps to optimizing your home's energy system

Just about every home wastes energy and water in some way. The trick is to figure out what remedial measures will maximize how much money you save net of costs (in turn, this helps you save even more energy and water). We have just the [tool](#) to help you!

- In 5 minutes, you can develop a plan customized to your home, your needs and preferences.
- The tool will present you with a list of actions that will optimize your energy and water spending.
- Put your Plan into action. Find contractors, rebates and tax credits. Apply for financing. Monitor your results and save money



A key goal of the Board of Supervisors is the education of local property owners about the benefits and value of efficiency and generation. Completing the Action Plan tool and viewing a short video from the Department of Energy will be a requirement for residential applicants. There is no obligation to execute the recommendations of the Action Plan; home owners will need the guidance of a home performance and/or solar professional for their project selection. The entire process can be completed in less than 15 minutes.

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## Resources for Local Governments

There's a new resource on the SCEIP website for local governments or other parties interested in developing a PACE program. "[Resources for Local Governments](#)" (formerly "Resources for Municipalities") is a landing page to guide agencies to an array of documents such as a PACE "How To" Manual, a document library of sample forms, templates and agreements, and links to other PACE information and webinars. Thank you to the California Energy Commission for funding the work effort to create this resource.

The next Municipal Forum is scheduled for Wednesday, April 18 at noon PST and will focus on an open Question and Answer period on "Everything You Wanted to Know about PACE Financing." SCEIP will have a panel of experts available to answer questions. Register [here](#) for the next Municipal Forum.



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## FHFA update

The comment period for the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking for the FHFA's PACE rule has closed. Comments can be viewed [here](#). The District Court's order requires that FHFA post a draft final rule by May 26. There will be another comment period, limited to 30 days, for the draft rule. FHFA is not required to adopt a final rule until the Federal Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals rules on whether the lower court had the power to review FHFA's action in issuing anti-PAVE statements, and to compel FHFA to begin rulemaking. Arguments are currently set for April 18, 2012 in San Francisco.



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## Contractors' Corner

### Contractor Portal

SCEIP now has a new [Contractor Portal](#) on the homepage. This tool allows contractors to submit applications for PACE financing on behalf of Sonoma County property owners, check the status of applications, have access to a variety of resources, including training calendars and other events, and more. If you haven't signed up, do it today!



### Contractor Forum

The next Contractor Forum will take place on Friday, April 20th from 8:30 am - 10 am at SCEIP, and will be available via ReadyTalk webinar. In addition to the program updates, the forum will focus on training for the advanced use of the Contractor Portal, Action Plan tool and Application process. Register [here](#) to participate in this very informative event.

### Training Opportunities

***Power, Energy and Therms: Fundamental Concepts, Monitoring Techniques and Load Disaggregation***

[Sonoma County Energy Watch](#) (SCEW) and PG&E will be hosting this free workshop on April 19, 2012 from 8:30 am to 4:30 p.m. (lunch provided at noon) at the Sonoma County Water Agency, 404 Aviation Blvd, Santa Rosa. For information and to register, please click [here](#).

***eQuest Software Training for Engineers and Energy Professionals***

May 1, 2012, 9:00am-4:30pm (*lunch provided at noon*) at the North Coast Builder's Exchange, 1030 Apollo Way, Santa Rosa. For information and to register, please click [here](#).

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