



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

## IN THIS ISSUE

- ▶ [Largest Project in PACE History](#)
- ▶ [Updates to the Eligible Improvements List](#)
- ▶ [Winter Holiday Energy Savings Tips](#)
- ▶ [Revised Effective date for the 2013 California Building Energy Efficiency Standards](#)
- ▶ [Contractors' Corner](#)

---

## Also this month

### SCEIP office hours

The SCEIP office will be closed on December 25th and January 1st

---

## Connect with us



---

## Contact Us

2300 County Center Dr., Suite A105  
Santa Rosa, California 95403-3009  
(707) 565-6470 Phone  
(707) 565-6474 Fax  
[www.sonomacountyenergy.org](http://www.sonomacountyenergy.org)  
[sceip@sonoma-county.org](mailto:sceip@sonoma-county.org)

MONDAY 23, DECEMBER 2013

## Largest Project in PACE History

In Los Angeles County, Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) financing is available to commercial, industrial and multi-family property owners to pay for building improvements that save energy or create renewable energy onsite.

The Hilton Los Angeles/Universal City took advantage of this fixed rate, 100% financing to fund \$7 million worth of sustainable upgrades. The Hilton project is the largest commercial PACE project in the US, over twice the size of two projects completed this past year at just over \$3 million each.



The Hilton project will result in an annual energy savings of \$800,000 and water savings of \$28,000, conserving more than 2.8 million gallons of water. This comprehensive retrofit includes energy efficiency glass installations and new LED lighting, which is expected to reduce energy consumption by 50 percent. Additionally, 500 low-flow shower heads will be installed and 250 bathtubs with showers replaced as part of the water conservation upgrade to save the equivalent to one month of the property's existing water usage. Moreover, older HVAC systems were replaced with new energy efficient ones.

“PACE is the only funding mechanism that is credible in providing verifiable information to our investors, and therefore is the ideal tool for us to move forward in becoming the gold standard in sustainable hotels,” said Mark Davis, Hilton Los Angeles/Universal City General Manager. “In our commitment to living sustainably, Hilton Worldwide is excited to transform the Hilton Los Angeles/Universal City into a green destination for our visitors.”

[back to top](#)

---

## Updates to the Eligible Improvements List

The Energy Independence Program has recently performed a review of the list of Eligible Improvements. Based off of extensive research, changes have been

made to some of the specifications and maximum allowable costs for improvements financed using PACE. Thank you to all of the Contractors that provided input.

---

## Forward to a friend



Know someone who might be interested in the email? Why not [forward this email to a friend](#).

[back to top](#)

---

## Winter Holiday Energy Savings Tips

Traditionally, the winter holidays are a time for delicious food shared with cherished company. This year, as you count your blessings, you might give a thought to the reliable energy sources that enable you to prepare those culinary delights so enjoyed by family and friends.



Today's new kitchen appliances use nearly 50 percent less energy than those built just a decade ago. Still, when holiday time rolls around, your energy bills can rise considerably, what with your stove, oven, and dishwasher running overtime, and the door to your refrigerator standing open frequently as family members search for hidden treats.

Thankfully, it's not difficult to keep added holiday energy costs to a minimum. Just follow these few simple tips from the California Energy Commission.

### Oven Tips

Don't open the oven door to take a peek at what's cooking inside. Instead, turn on the oven light and check the cooking status through the oven window. Opening the oven door lowers the temperature inside - by as much as 25 degrees - which increases cooking time and wastes energy.

As long as your oven is on, cook several items at the same time. Just make sure you leave enough room for the heat to circulate around each casserole and pie plate.

### Stovetop Tips

When cooking on top of your range, match the size of the pan to the heating element. More heat will get to the pan and less will be lost to the surrounding air. Believe it or not, a six-inch pan on an eight-inch burner will waste more than 40 percent of the energy!

Clean burners and reflectors provide better heating, while saving energy. If you need new reflectors, buy quality ones. The best on the market can save as much as one-third of the energy used when cooking on top of the stove.

### Refrigerator Tips

In addition to your stove, your refrigerator and freezer also get a real workout

---

## Unsubscribe



If you no longer wish to receive this email [please unsubscribe](#).

---

over the holidays. While newer refrigerators are much more energy efficient than older ones, they remain one of the largest energy consumers in your house, often accounting for as much as 15 percent of your home's total energy usage.

Help your refrigerator and freezer operate efficiently and economically by keeping the doors closed as much as possible so the cold air doesn't escape. However, leaving the door open for a longer period of time while you take out the items you need is more efficient than opening and closing it several times.

It's easy to keep your refrigerator and freezer full during the Holidays. It's also energy efficient, because the mass of cold items inside will help your refrigerator recover each time the door is opened. Don't cram it so full, however, that cool air can't circulate properly around your food.

### **Dishwasher Tips**

One simple, fun, and cost-effective way to save energy at holiday time is to gather everyone together in the kitchen and wash and dry your dishes by hand. But don't keep a steady stream of hot water flowing, or you'll waste more energy than you'll save.

According to research, a load of dishes cleaned in a dishwasher requires 37 percent less water than washing dishes by hand. However, if you fill the wash and rinse basins instead of letting the water run, you'll use half as much water as a dishwasher.

If you opt to use the dishwasher, wash full loads only. If you must rinse your dishes before loading them, use only cold water so you're not running up your energy bill by heating water unnecessarily.

Don't forget to use the energy-saving cycles whenever possible. Dishwashers that feature air power or overnight dry settings can save up to 10 percent of your dishwashing energy costs.

Saving energy in the kitchen is a habit you should practice all year long - why not begin saving now? Throughout the holiday season and into the New Year, you'll watch your energy bills drop even as you use less of our precious energy resources - just one more thing to be thankful for this holiday season.

[back to top](#)

---

## **Revised Effective date for the 2013 California Building Energy Efficiency Standards**

At its December 11, 2013 Business Meeting, the California Energy Commission revised the effective date for the 2013 Building Energy Efficiency Standards (Title 24, Part 1, Chapter 10 and Part 6, and affected provisions in Part 11 [Cal. Green Building Standards Code]) from January 1, 2014 to July 1, 2014.



The California Energy Commission's 2013 Public Domain Compliance Software must be used to complete the performance compliance approach of the 2013 Building Energy Efficiency Standards. The public domain software for the 2013 Standards does not yet provide the full feature set needed for building and alteration projects seeking building permits in early 2014. Further, time is needed for the building industry and local building departments to learn and adapt to the new tools. Implementing the standards without software completed and sufficient adoption time would place property owners and the building industry in an untenable situation by significantly impeding their projects' design and permitting processes.

The revised effective date of July 1, 2014 will provide the building industry with the full complement of tools to comply with the prescriptive and performance compliance options, and sufficient time for training on the use of those tools.

[back to top](#)

---

## Contractors' Corner

There is no Contractors Forum scheduled for December.

The next Forum is scheduled for January 15, 2014.

[back to top](#)

---

