



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

IN THIS ISSUE

FRIDAY 11, JANUARY 2013

- ▶ [Greater Incentives for Energy Upgrade California](#)
- ▶ [Road Construction by SCEIP Offices May Cause Delays](#)
- ▶ [Congress Extends Energy Efficient Homes Tax Credit](#)
- ▶ [Record 3rd Quarter U.S. Residential PV Installations](#)
- ▶ [Sonoma County Ranks High in Residential Solar](#)
- ▶ [Sonoma County PACE Compares Well](#)
- ▶ [January 18th - Open House at PRMD](#)
- ▶ [Contractors' Corner](#)

Greater Incentives for Energy Upgrade California

Energy Upgrade California helps you address your energy savings needs by taking a "whole house" approach, taking advantage of thousands of dollars in rebates and incentives. Options include the Basic Package, Advanced Package and Flex Package.



The "Advanced Package" rebate offered by PG&E includes customized energy saving measures for each home. Rebate levels are based on predicted energy savings, starting at 15%. Effective January 1, 2013 this rebate increased to a maximum of \$4,500, based on 45% predicted energy savings.

To learn more information about Energy Upgrade, visit our [website](#).

[back to top](#)

Also this month

Enter your title

SCEIP offices closed for these 2013 holidays:

- ▶ January 21 - Martin Luther King Jr.'s Birthday
- ▶ February 12 - Lincoln's Birthday
- ▶ February 18 - Presidents' Day

SCEIP Monthly Contractors' Forum

Road Construction by SCEIP Offices May Cause Delays

By Road Warrior, Press Democrat Blog

CalTrans began cutting down trees and bushes on January 9, 2013 at the Highway 101 interchange at Airport Boulevard north of Santa Rosa as a step toward rebuilding that interchange. The work isn't expected to cause any lanes on Highway 101 or Airport to be closed.



The major job of actually redoing the interchange is due to start this spring. Once completed in fall 2014, the project will expand the Airport Boulevard interchange to a diamond shape, with much longer, wider and sweeping on- and offramps. The bigger interchange will abut the one just to the south at Fulton Road, and that one will be eliminated for safety reasons, Caltrans officials have said.

[back to top](#)

▶ January 17 - 4:00 PM -
5:30 PM at SCEIP Office

Connect with us



Contact Us

404 Aviation Boulevard, Ste.
200
Santa Rosa, CA 95403
(707) 565-6470 Phone
(707) 565-6484 Fax
www.sonomacountyenergy.org
sceip@sonoma-county.org

Forward to a friend



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

Unsubscribe



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

Congress Extends Energy Efficient Homes Tax Credit

Congress officially extended the Energy Efficient Homes Tax Credit. The credit had previously expired on December 31, 2011 and has now been extended through December 31, 2013. The American Taxpayer Relief Act of 2012 retroactively renewed this tax credit effective January 1, 2012, expiring again on December 31, 2013.



Any qualified equipment installed in 2012 or 2013 is eligible for this credit. As in previous years, the cumulative maximum amount of tax credit that can be claimed by a taxpayer in all years combined is \$500. If a taxpayer has already claimed a tax credit of \$500 for purchases made in any previous year, they are ineligible for additional tax credits for any new equipment purchases. The Tax Credit is applicable to homeowners upgrading Water Heaters, Furnaces, Boilers, Heat pumps, Central Air conditioners, Building Insulation, Windows and Roofs.

For additional information or tax forms, you can visit the [Database of State Incentives for Renewables and Efficiency \(DSIRE\)](#).

[back to top](#)

Record 3rd Quarter U.S. Residential PV Installations

Installation of residential photovoltaic (PV) systems set an all-time high for a quarter, with more than 118 megawatts (MW) installed in the third quarter of 2012, according to a report released on December 11 by the Solar Energy Industries Association (SEIA) and GTM Research. The quarter marked the third-largest on record for the U.S. PV industry as a whole and raised the total installed capacity through the first three quarters of the year to 1,992 MW, surpassing 2011's annual total of 1,885 MW.

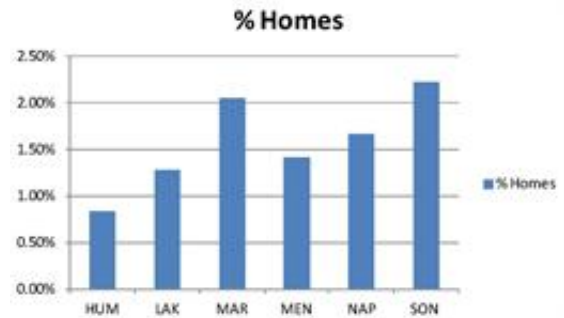


In the third quarter, the top-ranked states were California, Arizona, New Jersey, Massachusetts, and Nevada. Commercial installations grew 24% in the third quarter over the second quarter in 2012, led by notable growth in California and Massachusetts. The cumulative U.S. solar capacity is now 5.9 gigawatts of PV, which converts sunlight directly to electricity, operating from more than 271,000 U.S. installations. See the [SEIA press release](#).

[back to top](#)

Sonoma County Ranks High in Residential Solar

According to a recent report from Pacific Gas & Electric, Sonoma County ranks high in the % of residences that installed solar systems between 1999 and 2011 in these Northern California counties:



County	# households	# res. systems	% of homes
HUMB	61,851	514	0.83%
LAKE	35,404	454	1.28%
MARIN	111,541	2290	2.05%
MENDO	40,480	575	1.42%
NAPA	54,916	917	1.67%
SON	205,354	4554	2.22%

Data Sources:

of Homes by County; U.S. Census Bureau, 2011

of Residential Solar Systems; PG&E Generation Interconnection Services – Aug. 2012

[back to top](#)

Sonoma County PACE Compares Well

The emergence of multiple Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) financing programs in California is a testament to the success of Sonoma County's PACE program offered through SCEIP. It also confirms there is great demand for this type of financing for both residential and commercial property energy upgrades.



Click [here](#) to see a side-by-side comparison of four California-based PACE programs: Sonoma County's PACE, HERO, CA First and Ygrene.

[back to top](#)

January 18th - Open House at PRMD

Stop by the Sonoma County Permit and Resource Management Department at noon on Friday, January 18, 2013 for their [Open House](#) and learn how PRMD helps the people of Sonoma County make their construction and development plans a reality.

PRMD will also host monthly presentations as part of their year-long Citizen's Academy. These one hour sessions are free and open to the public. More information is available at (707) 565-1900.

[back to top](#)



Contractors' Corner

Keep up to date on local and regional training opportunities by visiting the SCEIP [Contractor Training Resources](#) webpage regularly.



THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO ATTENDED THE SCEIP CONTRACTORS' BREAKFAST FORUM IN DECEMBER!

SCEIP Contractors' Monthly Forum

NEW DATE AND TIME! January 17th 4-5:30 PM at 404 Aviation Blvd., Suite 200

Find Out How Energy Upgrade California Can Help You Build Your Business! Free online participation workshops:

January 15th 2-5 PM
[Register Now](#)

February 19th 2-5 PM
[Register Now](#)

Hands-on Duct Leakage to Outside Training

January, February & March 2013
[Registration](#) opening in early 2013

California Multifamily Existing Building and BPI MF Test Prep and Exam

February 5-8 & 11-12, 2013
[Registration](#) opening in early January 2013

[back to top](#)
