

**STATE OF RHODE ISLAND
PUBLIC UTILITIES
COMMISSION**

**IN RE: PASCOAG UTILITY DISTRICT :
2022 DEMAND SIDE MANAGEMNT : DOCKET NO. 5195**

**First Set of Data Requests of the
Division of Public Utilities and
Carriers Directed to the Pascoag
Utility District**

**Issued November 30, 2021
Please Provide Responses by December 8, 2021 if
possible**

Div. 1-1 With respect to the Pilot Program-Enhanced Heat Pump Program referenced at p. 14 of the 2022 DSM Plan:

- a) How does PUD intend to notify electric heat customers of the program?

Answered by Desarae Dolan:

PUD has a list of all electric heat customers that it is aware of. We will be sending out a direct mailing to those customers.

- b) How will PUD prioritize inquiries for consideration? For example, first to inquire/apply?

Answered by Desarae Dolan:

PUD will be taking rebate applications on a first to inquire/apply basis and information regarding this will be included in the direct mailing.

- c) Please explain how PUD intends to allocate the incentives. Will PUD “reserve” incentives upon some type of proof that a customer is moving forward with installing heat pumps? If so, what proof will be required?

Answered by Desarae Dolan:

PUD will treat this rebate application in the same way as the weatherization program. When a customer decides they want to move forward with the project, they submit the contractor’s estimate. Once PUD receives the estimate, the funds will be reserved for them. If they do not have a date of

install within 30 days, they will be removed from the list.

- d) Why did the PUD decide to permit total rebate of \$2,500?

Answered by Desarae Dolan:

We were able to allocate \$10,000 to this program. As this is a Pilot Program, we felt that offering the incentive to 10% of our electric heat customers would be a good place to start so that allowed us to provide incentives for four homes. Each home would need at least a two ton system, so we thought it would be reasonable to provide a rebate of \$1250 per ton with a max incentive of \$2500 per home.

Div. 1-2 With respect to the Wallum Lake Rod & Gun Club project referenced on p. 18 of the Plan:

- a) How did PUD decide on the amount of \$6,476 as the appropriate incentive?

Answered by Desarae Dolan:

PUD rebates commercial lighting projects at 60% for retrofits and 40% for new lighting. The lighting project had qualifying labor and materials for new lighting in the amount of \$16,189.00, with PUD providing a 40% rebate in the amount of \$6,475.60.

Div. 1-3 For the Potential 2022 Lighting & Energy Efficiency Projects budget of \$32,953 referenced on p. 19 of the Plan:

- a) How did PUD decide that \$32,953 was an appropriate budget for this line item?

Answered by Desarae Dolan

PUD projects that we will have spent a total of \$30,605 between Committed Funds and Potential Lighting and EE Projects by the end of 2021 so we are anticipating providing incentives for similar projects in 2022. PUD also plans to work closely with RISE Engineering to engage small businesses in order to promote this program and the Small Business ENERGY STAR offering and believes this will lead to more lighting and energy efficiency projects being scheduled for 2022.

- b) Please indicate whether there is a specific set aside within the budget for each of the categories- lighting and other energy efficiency.

Answered by Desarae Dolan:

There isn't a specific amount set aside within the budget for lighting and other energy efficiency measures.

- c) Please indicate whether there are other customers who have reached out seeking assistance, other than the Crystal Lake Golf Club.

Answered by Desarae Dolan:

One commercial business reached out but after their energy audit it was determined that there would need to be significant electrical updates to accommodate an LED lighting project so they are looking over the information and determining whether they will proceed with the project.

- d) PUC indicated in its filing that "often businesses will approach Pascoag Utility after the file date and ask whether a project they are considering will qualify for any type of financial assistance through rebates." When is the "file date"?

Answered by Desarae Dolan:

The file date refers to the date the DSM full year budget is filed with the Public Utilities Commission each year, typically the first week of November. Prior to 2020, PUD would only budget for commercial projects that were scheduled to move forward during the following year. Businesses would then approach us throughout the year and there would be no funds available for additional projects. PUD created the line item Potential Lighting and EE Projects to address this issue. As noted in response to 1-3a, PUD is projecting to spend \$30,605 between the Committed Funds and Potential Lighting and EE projects in 2021, indicating that demand for these funds is there and the ability to support customers at the time they are ready to move forward with projects, rather than defer to a future plan year, is important.

Div. 1-4 For the Community Outreach/Education Program, which is budgeted at \$14,000, please provide a detailed breakdown of this budget.

Answered by Desarae Dolan:

| Community Outreach/Education Program Budget | |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|
| Steere Farm Elementary Field Trip | \$1,158.11 |
| A.T Levy Energy Efficiency and Electrical Safety Presentation | \$566.86 |
| Burrillville Family Fair | \$1,376.42 |
| Green Festival | \$3,699.60 |
| Burrillville Aging Stronger Events | \$1,346.40 |
| Advertisements | \$1,500.00 |
| Billing Inserts | \$1,000.00 |
| Fulfilment Materials | \$3,352.61 |
| Total: | \$14,000.00 |

Div. 1-5 For the HVAC and Water Heater Program described at p. 13 of the plan, please explain the reason for the difference in incentive levels for the Ducted or Mixed Ducted Mini-Split Heat Pump of \$350.00 and the Ductless Mini Split Heat Pump of \$150.00.

Answered by Desarae Dolan:

Ducted or Mixed Ducted Mini-Split Heat Pumps, on average, save more electricity than Ductless Heat Pumps and so the incentive reflects that by giving those types of heat pumps a higher incentive amount.

