

APRIL 12, 2022

Executive Summary

Draft Determination and Conditions with Approval of the 2022-2024 Conservation and Load Management Plan

What is the Conservation and Load Management Plan?

The Conservation and Load Management Plan (C&LM Plan) guides the direction, incentives, and offerings for Connecticut's flagship energy efficiency programs, Energize CT, which help homes and business save energy and money with building assessments, rebates, financing, and other services for energy efficiency and clean energy improvements.

How Does C&LM Planning Work?

The C&LM Plan covers a three-year period, includes a detailed budget, and is supplemented by annual updates. With each planning cycle, DEEP approves, modifies or rejects the three-year C&LM Plan and the detailed budget submitted with the Plan.

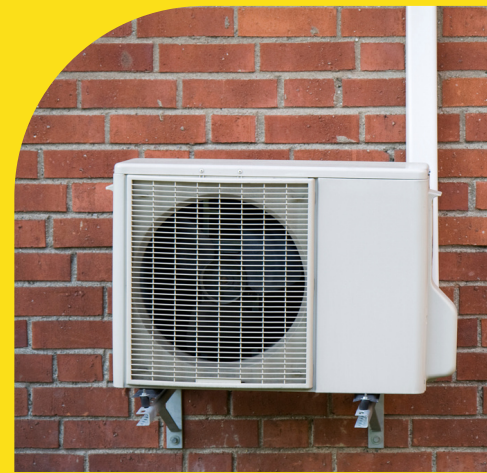
Connecticut is already seeing high demand for energy efficiency programs during the 2022-2024 C&LM Plan term, due in part to DEEP's work with the Utilities, Energy Efficiency Board, and energy efficiency vendors to maintain and encourage participation in the Energize CT programs during the COVID-19 pandemic.

These actions, including enhanced incentives, waived co-pays, and the development of virtual pre-assessment options, created high demand for Energize CT programs that persists into the 2022-2024 C&LM Plan term. DEEP will work with all relevant stakeholders to build on this success and ensure that the programs continue to operate sustainably.



Prepared By:

Connecticut Department of
Energy and Environmental
Protection




Efficient all-electric heat pump



Key Benefits

of Energize CT Programs

At a time when global supply chain interruptions, pandemic disruptions, and geopolitical events are causing Connecticut consumers to struggle with high energy costs, the Energize CT program has been a critical source of savings. In 2021 alone, Energize CT programs supported by the Conservation and Load Management plan resulted in: 



The energy-saving investments funded by the 2022-2024 Plan are projected to provide over

\$1.7 billion

in cumulative benefits

and result in

4.6 million tons

of CO2 emission reductions.

1,000,000

instances of participation in energy efficiency programs

\$765 million

in energy savings over the lifetime of the installed measures

43,138 homes

could be powered for a year with achieved energy savings

161,000

tons of CO2 emissions avoided

\$5.5 million

in public health costs saved

40,000

clean energy efficiency professionals employed



What does this Determination accomplish?

DEEP's Determination advances the C&LM Plan's three priorities – equity, decarbonization, and energy affordability - through the release of several DEEP findings and Conditions of Approval.

The Plan advances equity by:

- Encouraging the Energy Efficiency Board to work with its DEI Consultant and through DEEP's Equitable Energy Efficiency (E3) Proceeding to investigate how future equity analyses can be conducted in alignment with Justice40 principles.
- Prioritizing the targeting of residential energy efficiency programs to those customers with the largest past due balances and the most frequent shutoffs.
- Providing community groups with resources to conduct targeted outreach on energy efficiency programs in their communities, with specific goals to reach rental properties, microbusinesses, and other priority groups.
- Setting goals for delivering workforce development offerings in distressed municipalities.
- Developing a process to leverage federal weatherization funds for low-income programs and coordinating between the Home Energy Solutions - Income Eligible and federal Weatherization Assistance Program.

The Plan removes barriers and increases decarbonization efforts by:

- Introducing a planned timeline for a phase-out of natural gas equipment incentives from the residential portfolio.
- Restructuring programs and incentives to give customers access to the most efficient, least emitting technologies.
- Strengthening workforce development and customer education initiatives to remove barriers to heat pump adoption.
- Transitioning the Residential New Construction program into an all-electric offering.

The Plan addresses statewide affordability concerns by:

- Deploying additional residential and commercial customer education resources.
- Implementing programmatic changes to make energy efficiency programs more accessible and providing vendors with tools to reach priority customers.
- Enhancing the promotion of loan products for businesses and targeting customers in distressed communities.

