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Central Hudson Announces the Clean Energy Marketplace



Renewable energy is here and growing in the Mid-Hudson Valley, and customers of Central Hudson can learn more about subscribing for renewable energy from private, third-party providers through the utility's new portal for community distributed generation, the Clean Energy Marketplace. "Our new portal is a one-stop shop to help our customers make informed decisions regarding their energy options for locally produced renewable energy," said Charles A. Freni, President and C.E.O. of Central Hudson.

To provide its customers with an easy way to explore local community distributed energy options, Central Hudson has launched the Clean Energy Marketplace in partnership with EnergySage, an online solar comparison-shopping platform supported by the U.S. Department of Energy.

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FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THIS PUBLICATION OR TOPICS APPEARING IN THIS EDITION, CONTACT DIRECTOR OF MEDIA RELATIONS **JOHN MASERJIAN**

PHONE (845) 486-5282
 EMAIL JMASERJIAN@CENHUD.COM

Central Hudson Offers Free Lighting and Refrigeration Upgrades for Small Businesses

Small businesses, many on the verge of reopening, can reduce their operating costs by converting to LED lighting and, for those in food service, improving the efficiency of their refrigeration equipment. Central Hudson has launched a new, limited time commercial lighting and refrigeration program offering to fund these conversions, up to \$10,000. In most cases, the entire installation can be provided at no cost to the business.

"This program is intended to help small businesses at a critical time, as they restart their operations after an extended period of closure due to protective measures in response to the COVID-19 pandemic," said Charles A. Freni, President and C.E.O. of Central Hudson. "The upgrades will reduce energy use, lower costs and help to protect the environment; and for most of our small business customers the conversions can be performed at no charge to them. Like our Back to Business Funding program, which lowers the cost of working capital loans, we are offering support for small businesses as our economy reopens."

Central Hudson is partnering with Lime Energy to conduct the conversions. The launch of this program offering has allowed Lime Energy to recall several of its workers, and local electrical contrac-



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tors will be utilized to perform the work.

Freni explained that high efficiency LED lights use up to 90% less energy than incandescent bulbs and last up to 15 times longer. They also provide greater savings and better light quality than fluorescent lamps. On average, small business conversions to LED lighting saves nearly \$4,000 per year in energy costs.

Refrigeration upgrades include retrofitting existing units with high-efficiency components, such as fans, motors, condensers and anti-condensation controls. These upgrades can extend the life of refrigeration equipment and allow for more efficient operation, saving energy and money.

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Marketplace: Compare options, subscribe and save

What is Community Distributed Generation?

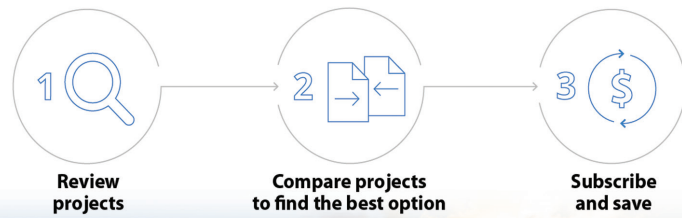
Electricity from local renewable generators such as solar farms and small hydro-electric stations, which are built, owned and operated by private developers, is made available to Mid-Hudson Valley communities by subscription. This is called Community Distributed Generation, or CDG, and provides expanded energy options for customers.

Residents and businesses can subscribe to a share of the electricity without the need to install solar panels or other equipment on their property. “CDG is a viable solution for renters or residents who may not have the space, proper conditions or who simply do not want to purchase or lease solar or other equipment themselves,” said Freni. “Also, larger-scale CDG installations are more cost-effective and provide economies of scale in producing renewable energy.”

Through this program, local renewable energy projects generate clean electricity for the grid. Residents and businesses may subscribe by agreeing to purchase a portion of the electricity produced. Subscribers receive electricity credits on their Central Hudson bill to offset their purchases, with no change in service.

Clean Energy Marketplace

Central Hudson’s Clean Energy Marketplace allows customers to compare



Central Hudson customers can learn more about subscribing for renewable energy through the Clean Energy Marketplace, the utility’s new portal for community distributed generation. The portal is a one-stop shop to help customers make informed decisions regarding their options for locally produced renewable energy.

offerings available by zip code within the utility service area by participating renewable energy companies located in the region. The portal displays a summary and links to details for each of the suppliers, including the type of renewable generation provided, costs, terms and conditions and subscriber enrollment information. Most offer savings on customers’ energy bills. “Using the Clean Energy Marketplace can help you find a subscription that best fits your needs,” said Freni.

“Programs like this advance New York State’s clean energy goals by connecting our customers directly to

local renewable energy resources,” said Freni. “As support for clean energy initiatives are included in New York State utility bills, Central Hudson provides information, incentives and opportunities so customers may participate and benefit.”

To visit the Clean Energy Marketplace and to learn more about local renewable energy options, go to <https://CleanEnergyMarket.cenhud.com>. To learn more about Central Hudson’s Powering the Path to a Cleaner Future initiatives, visit www.CentralHudson.com/My-Energy/Our-Energy-Future/Powering-The-Path/. ✨

Upgrades: Small businesses can reduce cost, save energy

Lifetime reductions in emissions for similar sized projects are, on average, the equivalent of energy used by 23 homes for one year or removing 44 cars from the road.

Small businesses with under 120

kilowatt average annual demand are eligible, and projects meeting a cost ceiling of 33 cents per kilowatt-hour saved qualify for up to \$10,000 in funding. Central Hudson’s regular incentives, which pay for up to 70 percent of the installation,

are available for the balance of projects exceeding \$10,000.

For more information, visit www.CentralHudsonLighting.com, call (855) 236-4832 or email CenHudSMBLight@lime-energy.com. ✨