

Energy Efficiency Investment Fund

Annual Report
Fiscal Year 2022
July 2021 – June 2022



What is EEIF?

The Energy Efficiency Investment Fund (EEIF) is a state grant program administered by the Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control (DNREC). EEIF helps Delaware businesses, local governments and nonprofit organizations pay for energy efficiency upgrades that lower energy use and costs.

EEIF was established in 2011 when Title 29 §8030 and Title 30 §5502 of the Delaware Code were amended, allocating the first \$5 million of the Public Utility Tax (PUT) to the EEIF program.

Energy efficiency is one of the most cost-effective ways to reduce energy costs. Lower energy use reduces pollution, combats climate change, creates jobs and promotes local economic development.

EEIF projects run from basic to highly complex. The most common types of EEIF applications include energy assessments, LED lighting installations, building envelope improvements, mechanical equipment replacements, and implementation of combined heat and power (CHP) equipment.

How is EEIF Funded?

In Fiscal Year 2022, \$13.55 million in funding was available to EEIF, comprised of:

- \$550,000 in Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI) funds from DNREC – used for state agency, local government and nonprofit projects
- \$5,000,000 from the PUT – used for facilities that pay this tax
- \$8,000,000 from the Pepco-Exelon merger – used for Delmarva Power & Light customers

The Value of Non-Energy Benefits

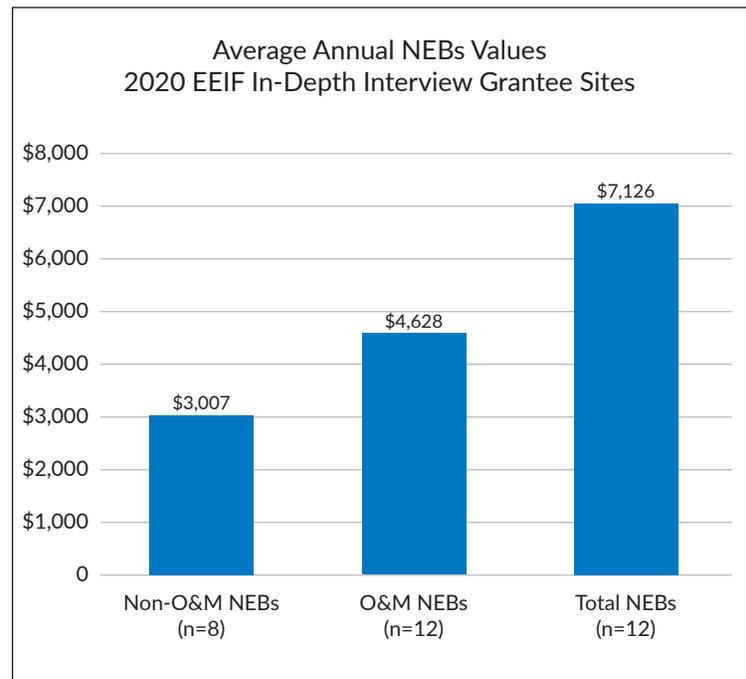
An independent review of the energy savings and non-energy benefits (NEBs) of EEIF grants was completed during the year. NEBs that were most often mentioned by interviewed grantees were reductions in operations and maintenance (O&M) costs and safety costs. One participant reported, “I haven’t had to replace lamps as often, which doesn’t seem like much, but ... if the lamps go out, they have to get the lift out. Right? Thirty-foot ceilings. It’s probably an hour or two.... And you’re looking at two guys, because there’s one guy down on the ground, and then one [on the lift].” Other categories of NEBs explored and quantified were administration, waste disposal and materials handling.

EEIF Accomplishments

- Evaluated by independent contractor to assess program benefit-cost ratio, which was determined to be 2.38, indicating that the program is highly cost-effective
- Introduced grant application portal, allowing for seamless electronic application submission and communication between applicant and program staff
- Modernized incentive options for energy assessment grants
- Updated energy assessment and prescriptive application requirements; grant pre-approval requirements now optional
- Streamlined application process to reduce paperwork requirements for applicants

Coming in the Next Year

- Expansion of grant eligibility to include new construction projects
- Extension of prescriptive heating pathway, introducing incentives for heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC) equipment
- Modernization of prescriptive lighting and custom pathway grants incentives
- Continuous efforts to improve energy savings and non-energy benefits generated from program supported projects



Abstracted from EcoMetrics, “2020 Evaluation Report,” December 2021.

Cover photos: increased use of daylighting and efficient fixtures at Dogfish Head Brewery (upper right); installation of efficient fixtures at Bridgeville Library (lower left)

EEIF Fiscal Year 2022 Metrics

 **152 individual projects supported***

 **\$5,843,285** in grants allocated

 **56,875,947 kWh**** avoided annually

 **\$6,096,600** in annual energy cost savings

 **11,575 MMBtu***** avoided annually

 **\$6.99** leveraged for each \$1 provided in grants

*Completed and in progress **Kilowatt hours *** Million British thermal units

CO₂ emissions saved from FY2022 EEIF projects: **40,307** metric tons of CO₂. This is the same as

8,685
Gasoline-powered passenger
vehicles driven for one year

5,077
Homes' energy use
for one year

4,535,500
Gallons of gasoline
consumed



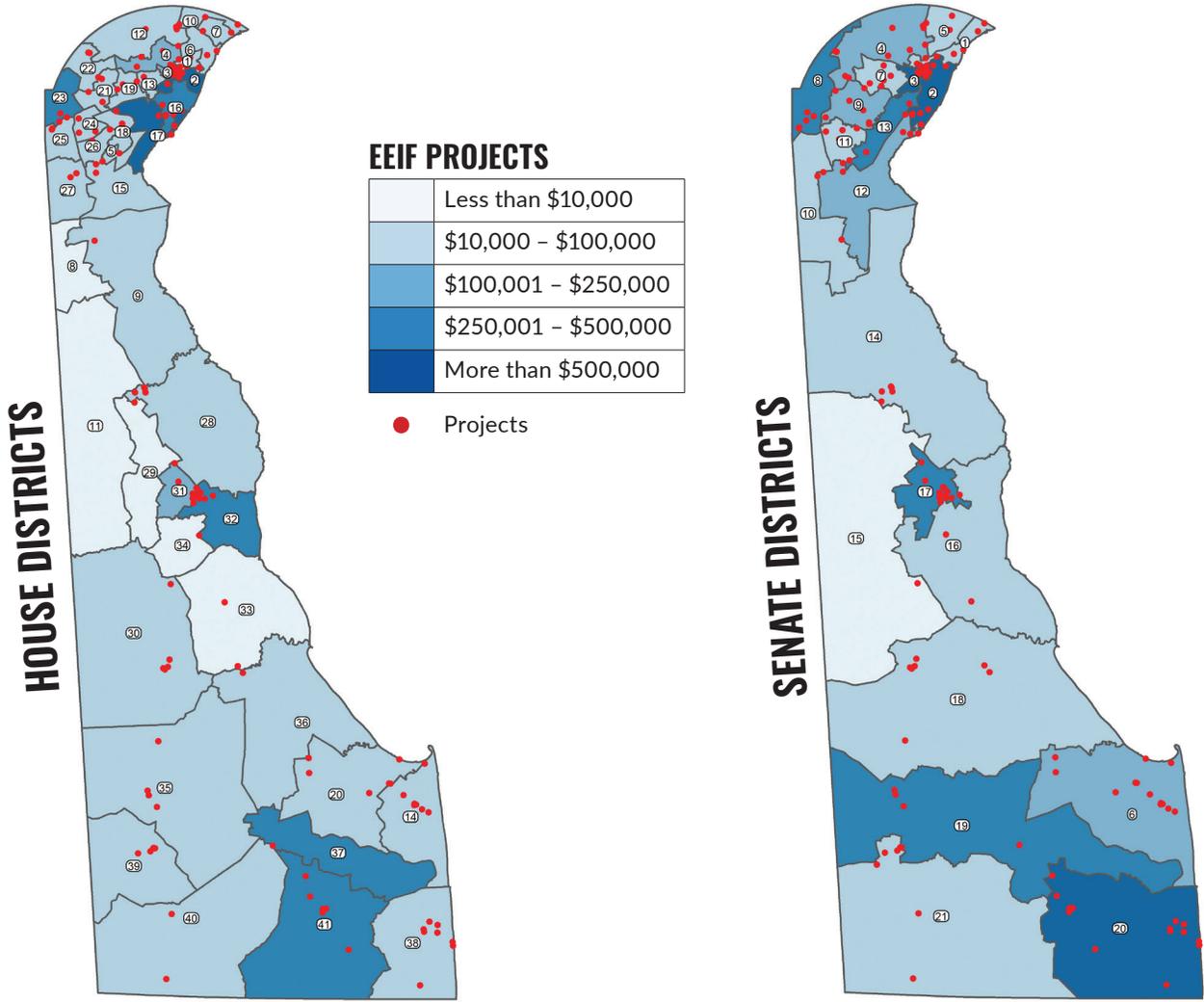
or



or



Projects Supported by EEIF



Grant Recipient Testimonials



This year the Delaware Municipal Electric Corporation (DEMEC), with the help of the DNREC EEIF program, replaced heating and cooling units in the building's training facility. The training facility is seeing more consistent heating and cooling. As we begin to restart in-house trainings, having a reliable HVAC system will provide a comfortable work environment.

DEMEC, like our member communities, is a leader in the development of renewable energy and energy efficiency projects. This is an opportunity for DEMEC to lead by example.

This project was easily completed thanks to the helpful staff and timeliness in responding to questions. The online system was intuitive and when we did have questions the EEIF team answered our questions succinctly.

Scott Lynch, Vice President, Asset Development
Delaware Municipal Electric Corporation



The Board of Trustees of the Bridgeville Library made the decision in late 2021 to replace all lighting in the building with LED lights. The hope was to reduce energy consumption and maintenance costs.

Our library has received our first electric bill since the project was completed. We can see that our kilowatt usage has noticeably decreased from our usage this time last year. This is proof that the improvements are working.

Our library building is brighter, and the output of the LED lights makes browsing and relaxing in our library comfortable. We are thankful for the Energy Efficiency Investment Fund grant program for helping to offset the cost of this project and we recommend the move to Energy Efficiency.

Karen Johnson, Director
Bridgeville Library



In an effort to reduce waste in energy output, Wilmington Fibre Specialty Co., partnered with DNREC through its EEIF. New LED lights were installed through the entire factory and office buildings. In addition, a new 75 [horsepower] hp variable speed rotary screw compressor was installed to reduce energy consumption by our pneumatic machines. Immediate cost reduction was noticed upon project completion.

I would like to thank DNREC for their support in making this project possible. The application process was relatively easy to complete, and the initial energy audit was enlightening.

David D. Celli, VP Operation
Wilmington Fibre Specialty Co.

State of Delaware
Division of Climate, Coastal and Energy



Visit de.gov/eeif



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