

Energy Efficiency Investment Fund

Annual Report
Fiscal Year 2026
July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2026



Goldfish Swim School of North Wilmington

Prepared by the **DNREC State Energy Office**
August 2026



DELAWARE DEPARTMENT OF
**NATURAL RESOURCES AND
ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL**

Energy Efficiency Investment Fund

FY 2026 Annual Report

Contents

What is EEIF? Page 3

Who does EEIF serve? Page 3

House & Senate District Participation Maps..... Page 4

What has EEIF Accomplished?..... Page 5

EEIF Fiscal Year 2026 Metrics..... Page 6

What are people saying about EEIF?..... Page 7

What’s next for EEIF?..... Page 8

This report was prepared by the staff of the DNREC State Energy Office, located within the Division of Climate, Coastal and Energy.

For more information on the Energy Efficiency Investment Fund and other resources, visit the DNREC State Energy Office at <https://dnrec.delaware.gov/climate-coastal-energy/energy-office/> or call 302-735-3480.

Abbreviation Guide:

- kWh:** kilowatt-hour (kWh) is a unit of energy, specifically measuring how much energy is used by an appliance or device over time. It represents the amount of energy consumed by a 1-kilowatt (kW) appliance running for one hour.
- MMBTU:** Million British Thermal Units is a standard unit of measurement for heat energy. It is commonly used to quantify the heating content and value of fuels, particularly in the energy industry for things like natural gas consumption, production, and pricing.
- Therms:** A therm is a unit of heat measurement equal to 100,000 British Thermal Units (BTUs). It is commonly used to measure natural gas consumption.

What is EEIF?

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

Prescriptive Improvements For common energy-efficient improvements, this grant includes reimbursements for upgrading and replacing: • Interior and Exterior LED Fixtures • High-Efficiency Cooling & Heating Equipment • Water Heating Equipment • Appliances and Food Service Equipment • Heating and Lighting Controls	Energy Assessments For technical assistance to evaluate your facility for cost-efficient energy upgrades, this pathway provides rebates for: • Targeted Energy Audits • Comprehensive Energy Audits
Custom Improvements For more complex or unique measures, this pathway is designed for: • Energy Management Systems • HVAC Systems and Demand Control Ventilation • Insulation and Weatherization • Process and Manufacturing Improvements • Energy Retrofits & More	Combined Heat & Power For large facilities with high annual hours of operation and thermal load, CHP rebates cover: • Microturbines • Reciprocating Engines • Gas & Steam Turbines • Fuel Cells

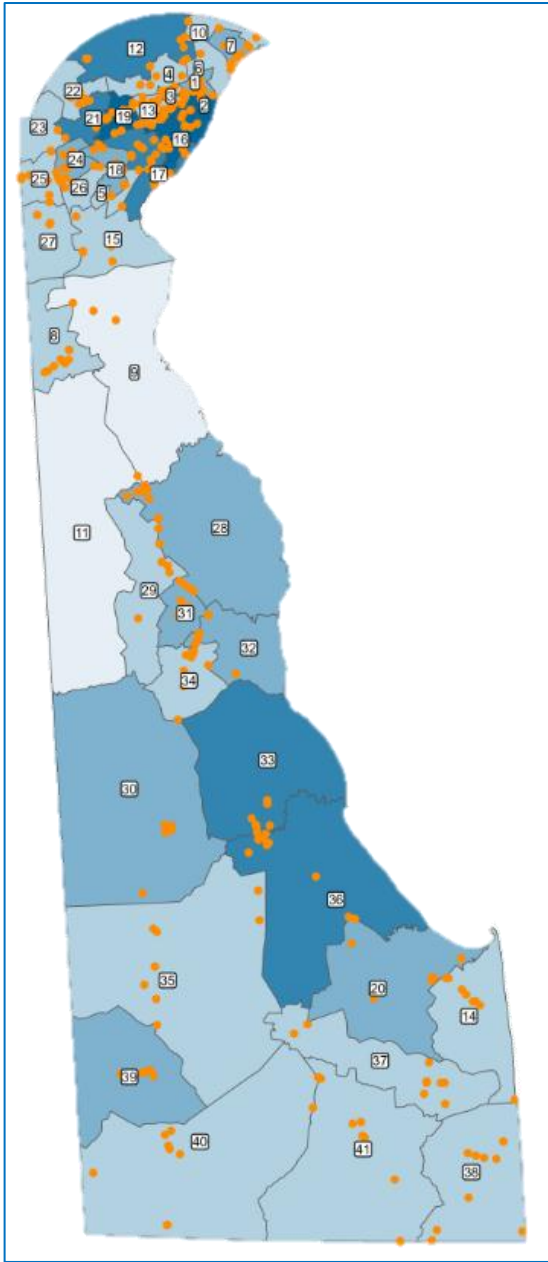
Energy efficiency is one of the most cost-effective ways to reduce energy costs. Lower energy consumption reduces pollution, helps mitigate climate change, creates jobs in energy efficiency, and drives local economic development. EEIF projects run from basic to highly complex. The most common types of EEIF applications include energy assessments, LED lighting installations, building envelope improvements, mechanical equipment replacements, and implementation of combined heat and power (CHP) equipment.

Who does EEIF serve?

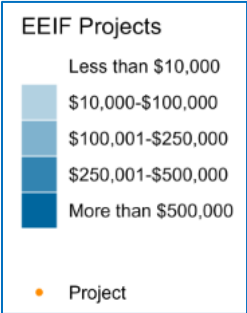
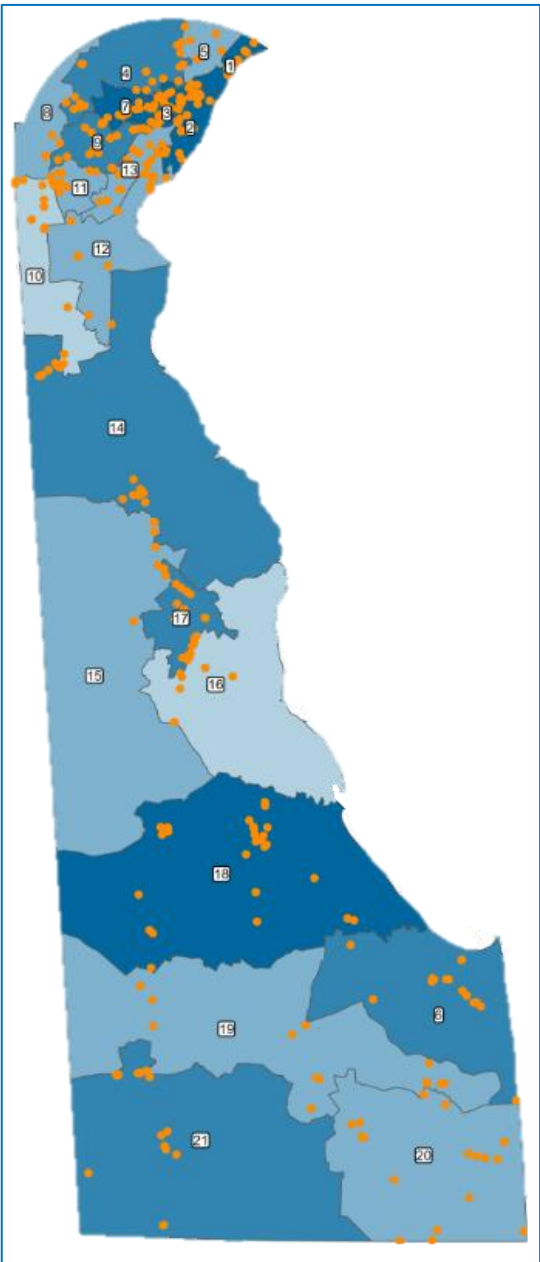
Since its inception, EEIF has been proud to serve every eligible Delawarean that pays into the Public Utility Tax, regardless of the facility size. However, in recent years, EEIF has made great strides to continue to focus on assisting small businesses. The EEIF program reserves 50% of its overall budget for small businesses. An applicant is characterized as 'Small Business' if the customer meets at least one (1) of the two (2) definitions: has less than 100 employees or a monthly energy usage less than 10,000 kWh & is not a national chain. In Fiscal Year 2026, 59% of EEIF projects were designated as small business.

Project Location & Total Rebate Amounts Paid by Legislative District

House District



Senate District



FY 2026 EEIF Accomplishments

- **Increased Energy Savings and Program Impact:** FY 2026 projects achieved higher electricity and natural gas savings across all tracked metrics compared to FY 2025, resulting in more than \$5.17 million in incentive payments to Delaware businesses. Savings increased to 19.5 million kWh, 323,800 therms, and an additional 376 kW of demand reduction.
- **Incentive Alignment:** Updated incentive offerings to better align with peer programs in other states by adjusting incentive levels, adding new measures, restructuring existing measures, standardizing incentives, and prioritizing fossil fuel displacement for heat pump incentives.
- **Ongoing Stakeholder Communication:** Provided regular updates on program offerings and incentive changes to previous customers, contractors, and industry professionals that operate throughout the state.
- **Contractor Network Development:** Continued to grow the EEIF participating contractor network to connect customers with qualified professionals for their projects. Held a virtual webinar for contractors listed in the EEIF Participating Contractors Network.
- **Statewide Outreach and Awareness:** Promoted the EEIF program through business, manufacturing, economic development, and industry events statewide, engaging a broad range of business and community organizations. Examples included “Open For Business” events with the New Castle and Kent County Chambers of Commerce and events held by the Delaware Manufacturing Extension Partnership, and Delaware Division of Small Business.
- **Targeted Sector Engagement:** Conducted focused outreach to specific market segments including small businesses, car dealerships, healthcare, commercial real estate companies, private schools and academies, churches, industrial parks, national chains, big-box retailers, hotels, pharmaceutical companies, and financial institutions.
- **Trade and Contractor Engagement:** Engaged with contractors in trades such as lighting, heating, ventilation, air-conditioning, and energy auditing space, including ABC Contractors of Delaware and statewide trade unions to support project development and delivery.

EEIF Fiscal Year 2026 Metrics

Individual Projects Supported	349
Rebates Supported	\$5,167,361
kWh Avoided Annually	19,504,075
Annual Energy Cost Savings	\$2,595,992
MMBtu Avoided Annually	32,380
CO2 Emissions Saved (mtCO2)	14,033

EEIF supported projects reduced CO₂ emissions by 14,003 metric tons equivalent to...



3,051

Gasoline-powered
passenger vehicles
driven for one year

or



1,744

Homes' energy
use for one year

or



1,579,001

Gallons of gasoline
consumed

What are people saying about EEIF?

Goldfish Swim School of North Wilmington (Wilmington, DE)

"The EEIF program was very helpful and provided a meaningful HVAC and lighting credit for the work we did on a new retail fit-out. The process only took a few weeks and the entire team, especially NV5, was very helpful in getting our application across the finish line. We look forward to working with the EEIF team again on future projects!"

- EEIF Rebate = \$14,435
- Annual Electric Savings = 43,670.3 kWh
- Annual Gas Savings = 138.7 therms

Harrington Raceway (Harrington, DE)

"With the help of the EEIF program, we were able to secure rebates for a major lighting upgrade which will help lower our energy bill and provide a much better lighting solution."

- EEIF Rebate = \$32,800
- Annual Electric Savings = 77,460.0 kWh

Community Legal Aid Society Dover Office (Dover, DE)

"We are so glad to have discovered the EEIF program. The program allowed us to further leverage grant dollars to make our office more efficient and replace a 30-year-old HVAC system. The assistance from the implementation team was invaluable in completing the application and getting it approved."

- EEIF Rebate = \$2,000
- Annual Electric Savings = 179.7 kWh
- Annual Gas Savings = 100.8 therms

Delaware Business Systems (New Castle, DE)

"The process of working with EEIF team on the rebate for our company (DBS) was excellent. From start to finish, the communication of the process was clear and precise, as this was the first time applying. The EEIF team from all levels made the experience seamless and stress-free for me, I truly appreciate it and I highly recommend them to anyone!"

- EEIF Rebate = \$2,950
- Annual Electric Savings = 13,200 kWh

Millville Square (Millville, DE)

"The DNREC EEIF rebate program is a fantastic resource for property owners looking to make energy efficient upgrades and installations. We have been through the process three times now, and each experience has been consistently smooth, well organized, and transparent. The rebates genuinely incentivize energy-efficient products, and we fully expect to reach out to them prior to our next project to align early on with the most effective options at that time. Highly recommend!"

- EEIF Rebate = \$5,255
- Annual Electric Savings = 65,810.0 kWh

What's next for EEIF?

- **Supporting Businesses:** Continue to help organizations across Delaware improve building performance, better manage energy use and reinvest savings into operations and communities.
- **Focus on Inclusive Outreach:** Expand targeted marketing and outreach efforts to involve more diverse small businesses through partnerships with local business associations, chambers of commerce, and community events.
- **Provide Educational Opportunities:** Offer educational webinars and resources to help customers and contractors learn more about how they can participate in the EEIF program and the contractor network.
- **HVAC Participation:** Grow participation in HVAC projects through targeted outreach efforts with contractors, trade allies, and customers.



Odyssey Charter School

