

GENERAL BACKGROUND and CEE INITIATIVES



HISTORY

Founded in 1991, the Consortium for Energy Efficiency (CEE) is a nonprofit, public benefit corporation that works with its members to promote the use of energy-efficient products, technologies and services.

CEE members are energy-efficiency organizations, including electric, gas and water utilities; research and development organizations; state energy offices; and regional energy programs. Both the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Department of Energy (DOE) provide major support through grants and participation.

CEE brings these energy-efficiency organizations together, providing a forum to discuss, network and exchange information with their peers. CEE members work together on committees that address specific program areas, such as residential HVAC and appliances, industrial motor systems, commercial buildings, etc. When there is significant opportunity and member interest, CEE develops national initiatives that can be used as templates for individual energy-efficiency programs.

By convening this large working group, CEE has created an energy-efficiency industry that can partner with other industries to create even more effective vehicles to support their energy-efficiency endeavors.

For more information, see www.cee1.org.

CEE INITIATIVES

Commercial Kitchens Initiative (2006) – This initiative provides definitions for a set of high-performance commercial kitchen equipment that members can deliver as a “package” (or individually) to targeted food service market sectors. Due to the significance of the added water savings achievable in this market, committee participation and initiative participation have been expanded to include sponsoring water agencies.

High-Efficiency Commercial Reach-In, Solid-Door Refrigerators and Freezers (2002) – This initiative, as well as the following two, have been incorporated into the Commercial Kitchens Initiative. The focus is to create a viable market for the top-performing equipment.

High-Efficiency Commercial Ice-Makers (2002) – See above.

High-Efficiency Glass-Door, Reach-In Refrigerators (2003) – See above.

High-Performance Commercial Lighting Systems (2004) – The initial focus of the initiative is national coordination in defining efficient, high-performance lighting products. The initiative is currently addressing higher lumen, 4-foot, 32-watt T8 lighting systems and reduced-wattage T8 systems.

National Municipal Water and Wastewater Facility Initiative (2004) – This initiative will focus on promoting greater energy efficiency in publicly-held facilities, including those operated by municipalities, counties, water districts or authorities, and townships.

FACT SHEET

High-Efficiency Gas Heating (1998) – The initiative’s goal is to encourage the purchase and proper installation of high-efficiency gas furnaces and boilers. The installation of energy-efficient air handlers is also addressed. CEE is currently exploring energy-efficient water heating.

Super-Efficient Home Appliances (1997) – SEHA is designed to promote the purchase and use of super-efficient home appliances (clothes washers, refrigerators, dishwashers, and room air conditioners) by educating consumers about the benefits of these products.

Commercial, Family-Sized Washer Initiative (1998) – Similar to the SEHA’s clothes washer component, this program is targeted at laundromats, multifamily housing units and institutions.

High-Efficiency Commercial Air Conditioning and Heat Pumps (1994) – This initiative promotes the use of high- and super-efficiency, commercial (rooftop and unitary) air conditioners and heat pumps. CEE also promotes the quality installation of commercial HVAC equipment.

Residential Central Air Conditioning and Heat Pumps (1994) – This initiative promotes the use and proper installation of high-efficiency central air conditioning equipment in the home market. CEE’s Residential HVAC Installation Specification was released in August 2000.

Government Purchasing (1999) – CEE provides resources for the purchase of energy-efficient products by state and local governments providing tools and resources to members.

Premium-Efficiency Motors (1996) – CEE has teamed with members and other organizations to encourage the availability and sales of motors exceeding federal minimum standards. On June 13, 2001 CEE and the National Electrical Manufacturers Association (NEMA) agreed to co-promote a new set of specifications for premium-efficiency motors (NEMA Premium).

High-Efficiency Motor Systems (1999) – This initiative is designed to complement the Premium-Efficiency Motors Initiative by addressing the entire motor system, rather than just the motor itself. In June 2001, CEE and a wide array of sponsors rolled out the *Motor Decisions MatterSM* campaign. *Motor Decisions Matter* promotes system efficiency by encouraging industrial and commercial customers to develop a motor management plan before motors fail.

Energy-Efficient Traffic Signals (1999) – CEE provides resources and case studies about energy-efficient traffic signals and their installation.

Energy-Efficient Commercial and Industrial Transformers (1997) – In conjunction with EPA’s ENERGY STAR Transformers Program, the initiative provides performance guidelines for medium- and low-voltage products, and helps organizations promote this equipment.

Residential Lighting (1994) – Through this initiative, CEE aims to stimulate the residential lighting market for high-efficiency compact fluorescent lamps (CFLs) and CFL fixtures. CEE is partnering with the ENERGY STAR, which provides a marketing platform and performance specifications. The use of light-emitting diodes (LEDs) and other solid-state lighting sources for residential and commercial applications is currently being explored.

EVALUATION SUPPORT

In addition to facilitating national initiatives, CEE promotes effective evaluation research. CEE provides the infrastructure to support a network for practitioners, facilitates joint research and evaluation efforts, organizes national-level evaluations and market penetration tracking projects, and encourages member dialogue on measurement and evaluation practices. CEE also offers a clearinghouse of evaluation studies and market assessments on its Web site. In response to member requests, CEE has organized training sessions for evaluators and program planning staff.