Small businesses can save big dollars with energy assessment pilot program

Limited number of audits available to PPL Electric Utilities customers

Small businesses looking for ways to save on their electric bills can get a low-cost energy efficiency checkup under a new pilot program from PPL Electric Utilities.

About 100 on-site energy audits are available on a first-come, first-served basis to independent small-business owners. The audits need to be completed by Dec. 31. Results will be used to determine if the program will be expanded.

"Energy audits can help our small-business customers identify opportunities to install retrofit measures and make operational improvements that can potentially shave thousands of dollars from their annual electricity bills," said Thomas C. Stathos, director of Customer Programs and Services for PPL Electric Utilities.

While the actual cost of these audits can range up to several thousand dollars, PPL Electric Utilities is making them available for a fraction of the cost — \$100 for businesses with less than \$25,000 in annual electricity costs, and \$200 for businesses with between \$25,000 and \$100,000 in annual electricity costs.

Participating businesses must have fewer than 50 full-time employees. Chain stores, nonprofit organizations, schools and government buildings are not eligible.

As part of the audit, experienced energy assessors will make thorough examinations of a customer's electricity use, including evaluations of insulation levels, lighting, HVAC, water heating, appliances, motors, air compressors, refrigeration and electric energy processes and maintenance.

Following the energy audit, the business customer will receive a personal consultation with the assessor, as well as a written report that describes the scope of the audit and provides a detailed list of energy-saving recommendations.

"These audits will help our customers help themselves by showing them how to get the biggest possible return on every dollar they spend for electricity," Stathos said.

For complete program details and to sign up for an energy audit, visit www.pplelectric.com/smallbusinessassessment or call 1-866-424-9111.

PPL Electric Utilities, a subsidiary of PPL Corporation that provides electricity delivery services to about 1.4 million customers in Pennsylvania, has consistently ranked among the best companies for customer service in the United States. More information is available at www.pplelectric.com.

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