Maine Industrial Resource Fact Sheet

Introduction

Maine’s industrial manufacturing sector accounts for 11.1 percent of the state’s gross domestic product (GDP). Additionally, industrial manufacturing provides the state with 54,351 jobs. Based on overall value of shipments, Maine’s leading industries include paper manufacturing, transportation equipment manufacturing, food processing, and wood product manufacturing. Due to its energy-intensive forest product industry, Maine is the only New England state in which industry is the leading energy-consuming sector. Maine’s industrial sector used a total of 146.7 trillion British thermal units (Btu) in 2007 (or 32.2 percent of all energy consumed in the state), ranking it 43rd in the nation. Additionally, the state’s natural gas consumption totaled 3.4 trillion Btu, ranking it 48th in the nation. Moreover, in 2005, Maine’s industrial sectors’ energy consumption lead to the release of approximately 3.0 million metric tons of carbon dioxide emissions.

Maine showed initiative toward addressing the state’s energy consumption by becoming the first state in the nation to implement an energy-efficiency program and pass legislation addressing global warming. Maine continues toward reducing statewide energy consumption by creating more legislation, such as the Energy Conservation Act, which formed a statewide energy-efficiency program that helps residents and businesses reduce electricity energy costs through energy audits, incentives, and loans. Additionally, in 2009, Maine produced a state energy plan to address current and future energy needs. Of note, the energy plan highlights the importance of providing industry with opportunities to invest in energy efficiency. One opportunity they plan on developing is an interdisciplinary energy SWAT team whose purpose would be to assist large industries and manufacturers in addressing their critical energy needs.

State Programs

State Government: Maine Public Utilities Commission sponsors Efficiency Maine—a statewide effort to promote the more efficient use of electricity. Through Efficiency Maine, residents and businesses are assisted with reducing energy costs and improving Maine’s environment through resources, such as energy audits, online tools, and factsheets. Efficiency Maine also offers a number of incentives, such as rebates and loans for energy-efficiency improvements like HVAC equipment, lighting, energy-efficiency motors and drives.

Utility Resources

Investor-Owned Utilities: Bangor Hydro-Electric Company offers online assessment- and analysis-tools for energy-efficiency improvements, along with financial incentives to encourage energy-efficient equipment upgrades. Additionally, Central Maine Power provides financial incentives for industry customers to reduce their energy consumption and offers an online tool to track energy usage. Finally, Northern Utilities offers financial incentives for energy-efficient equipment upgrades and no-cost energy audits.

Regional Resources

Industrial Assessment Center: Maine does not have an Industrial Assessment Center (IAC) within the state, but does share close proximity to a Massachusetts IAC at the University of Massachusetts. Maine’s small- and midsize-manufacturers can receive no-cost energy assessments from the University of Massachusetts’ IAC.

Clean Energy Application Center: The Northeast CHP Application Center’s mission is to provide Combined Heat and Power (CHP) application assistance, technology information, and educational support in the seven Northeast states, including Maine.

Local Resources

Nonprofit Organizations: The Northeast Energy Efficiency Partnership provides funding opportunities, energy-efficiency training, and outreach. Additionally, it promotes energy-efficiency initiatives, such as the Commercial Buildings and Technologies Initiative.
Manufacturing Extension Partnerships: The Maine Manufacturing Extension Partnership’s mission is to provide strategic assistance to Maine’s manufacturers to help them become successful innovators in the global marketplace. Additionally, it provides technical and analytical assistance, energy audits, and training.

For More Information

DOE Industrial Technologies Program (http://www1.eere.energy.gov/industry/index.html)

ITP Save Energy Now (http://www1.eere.energy.gov/industry/saveenergynow/)

ITP State Activities Web site –Maine (http://www1.eere.energy.gov/industry/about/state_activities/map_new.asp?stid=ME)

ITP State Incentives and Resources Database (http://www1.eere.energy.gov/industry/about/state_activities/incentive_search.asp)

ME Public Utilities Commission (http://www.maine.gov/mpuc)

Efficiency Maine (http://www.efficiencymaine.com/index.php)

Bangor Hydro- Electric Company (http://www.bhe.com)

Central Maine Power (http://www.cmpco.com)

Northern Utilities (http://www.northernutilities.com)

Northeast Energy Efficiency Partnerships (http://www.neep.org/)

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