Montana Industrial Resource Fact Sheet

Introduction

Montana’s economy is ranked 47th in the nation in terms of 2008 gross domestic product (GDP), generating $35.9 billion annually. Industrial manufacturing is an important sector of Montana’s economy, providing the state with 7,990 jobs and supplying $1,978 million worth of goods. Based on value of shipments, the largest manufacturing sectors in the state are wood product and food manufacturing. In 2007, Montana’s industrial sector ranked 41st in the nation in terms of energy expended, accounting for 186.4 trillion British thermal units (Btu) or 37.8 percent of statewide energy consumption. The state’s natural gas consumption totaled 32.6 trillion Btu, which ranked 37th in the nation that year. Moreover, the industrial sector accounted for approximately 5.91 million metric tons of carbon dioxide emissions.

The State of Montana is committed to promoting energy efficiency and renewable energy. Montana’s government is currently in the process of updating their state energy plan and plan on publishing it in 2010. Montana’s Code Annotated 2009 (2009 code) contains legislation that prompted the creation of a new energy plan, such as 90-4-1001 and 90-4-1003. Additionally, the 2009 code created financial-incentive statues for energy efficiency, including the Energy Conservation Installation Credit, which allows an individual taxpayer to take a credit for 25 percent of the expenditure for investment in the physical attributes of a building or the installation of a water, heating, or cooling system. Another financial-incentive statue is the Deduction of Energy-Conserving Investment statue, which allows a taxpayer to deduct a portion of his or her expenditure for a capital investment in a building for an energy-conservation purpose. Further resources available in the state are listed below.

State Programs

State Government: The State of Montana, through the Department of Environmental Quality and the Department of Revenue, provides industrial operations across the state with incentives designed to increase energy efficiency and renewable-energy generation, including various tax incentives offered for the construction of renewable-energy systems and energy-efficient upgrades. The state also bestows grants and loans for energy-efficiency projects and renewable-energy generation.

Utility Resources

Investor-Owned Utilities: Multiple investor-owned utilities (IOUs) in Montana offer industrial customers incentive programs to encourage energy-efficiency efforts. For example, Black Hills Power provides its industrial customers with cash rebates on energy-efficient heat pumps and water heaters, as well as a voluntary load-management program and a raft of energy-assessment and analysis tools. Similarly, Northwestern Energy has made cash rebates available for energy-efficient motors, lighting, thermostats, and new construction, in addition to providing funding for renewable-energy installations and conducting energy audits. Other IOUs offering energy-efficiency programs to industrial customers are Montana-Dakota Utilities and Mission Valley Power, which both offer cash rebates on energy-efficient lighting.

Electric Cooperatives: Electric cooperatives across the State of Montana provide industrial operations with incentives for implementing energy-saving measures. The following table is a breakdown of the programs offered by type.

Regional Resources

Nonprofit Organizations: The Northwest Energy Efficiency Alliance (NEEA) is a private nonprofit organization that promotes voluntary, market-based programs in the residential, commercial, and industrial sectors through its Northwest ENERGY STAR, BetterBricks, and industrial market-facing brands. In addition, NEEA focuses on developing new, energy-efficient technologies and provides marketing- and training-resources across sectors.

Industrial Assessment Center: Colorado State University, with sponsorship from the Department of Energy, hosts an Industrial Assessment Center that offers no-cost energy assessments.
Clean Energy Application Center: The Northwest CHP Application Center provides assistance to organizations with Combined Heat and Power (CHP) projects that are economically viable and make efficient use of energy. They offer software tools and information on CHP, including case studies, policies and initiatives, and CHP events.

Local Resources
Nonprofit Organizations: Several nonprofit organizations are willing to offer expertise and/or funding to industrial operations in Montana for the purpose of improving energy efficiency and reducing carbon emissions. For example, the Bonneville Environmental Foundation awards grants for renewable-energy projects. The Industrial Efficiency Alliance, Northwest Energy Education Institute, and Better Bricks are all nonprofit organizations that offer training and energy-assessment opportunities to industrial operations in the state.

Manufacturing Extension Partnership: The Montana Manufacturing Extension Center is a resource for Montana’s manufacturing sector to reduce energy intensity and waste and increase productivity and sales. Services include technical assistance, training and assessment tools.

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 Incentives and Resources Database (http://www1.eere.energy.gov/industry/about/state_activities/incentive_search.asp)
Montana Department of Environmental Quality (http://www.deq.state.mt.us/energy/renewable/taxincentrenew.asp)
Montana Department of Revenue (http://mt.gov/revenue/forbusinesses/corporation/corptaxincentives.asp#energy)
Black Hills Power (http://www.blackhillspower.com/cimktg.htm)
Mission Valley Power (http://missionvalleypower.org/category/conservation-programs/)
Montana-Dakota Utilities (http://www.montana-dakota.com/)
NEEA (http://www.nwalliance.org)
Flathead Electric Cooperative (http://www.flatheadelectric.com/energy/Rebates.html)
Hill County Electric Cooperative (http://www.hcelectric.com/index.asp)
Lincoln Electric Cooperative (http://www.lincolnelectric.coop/commercial-lighting-rebates.htm)
Lower Yellowstone Rural Electric Association (http://www.lyrec.com/Services/Audits/index.html)
McCone Electric Cooperative (http://www.mcconeelectric.coop/homebus/audit/index.html)
Southeast Electric Cooperative (http://www.midrivers.com/~seco/services.htm)
Bonneville Environmental Foundation (http://www.b-e-f.org/renewables/)
Industrial Efficiency Alliance (http://www.industrialefficiencyalliance.org/training.html)
Northwest Energy Education Institute (http://www.nweei.org/eme.html)

Contacts

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Manufacturing Extension Partnership in Montana
Montana Manufacturing Extension Center
Director: Steve Holland, PE
Phone: (406) 994-3812
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E-mail: sholland@coe.montana.edu
Web site: http://www.mtmanufacturingcenter.com
Source: http://blue.nist.gov/centers/MT

Clean Energy Application Center for Region
Northwest CHP Applications Center
Director: David Sjoding
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Web site: http://www.chpcenternw.org/
Source: http://www.eere.energy.gov/de/chp/chp_applications/chp_application_centers.html

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