



INFORMATION BRIEF

Federal Government announces end to federal ecoENERGY grants – March 31, 2010

Explanation of Changes:

- The Alberta rebate program has not changed.
- The federal government announced on March 31st, 2010 that the grant portion of the federal ecoENERGY retrofit program has ended effective immediately.
- Any Canadian who has already entered the program by completing a pre-retrofit evaluation or has booked an appointment with a certified service organization for a pre-retrofit evaluation will remain eligible for federal grant money. Participants need to be aware of the 18-month deadline (from the date of the pre-retrofit evaluation) or the program end date of March 31st, 2011—whichever comes first.
- Anyone who would like to enter the ecoENERGY Retrofit Program and have a home energy evaluation completed in order to receive an EnerGuide rating number can still do so. The program infrastructure and administration is still in place, but the federal grants are now no longer offered.
- Residents in Alberta who have not entered the program are still encouraged to do so despite the absence of federal grants. The Government of Alberta is continuing all of the provincial rebates, including the three tied to the federal program. Currently, we have a data-sharing agreement with the federal government so that any Albertan participating in the federal program is automatically awarded the appropriate provincial rebates. This will not change. An energy advisor will still file papers to the federal department and C3 will still receive this information from Natural Resources Canada in order to automatically dispense the appropriate provincial rebates.

Questions:

Can I still enter the ecoENERGY Retrofit program?

The federal government announced on March 31st of this year that federal grant money will no longer be provided to NEW participants in the ecoENERGY Retrofit Program. You are still encouraged to participate in the federal ecoENERGY Retrofit Program as you will still benefit from Alberta's provincial rebates and you will learn a lot about your home's efficiency.

I have already had a pre-retrofit evaluation and have begun upgrades to my house. Will I still get the federal grant money?

If you have already begun the evaluation process, you will remain eligible to apply to the program for grant money. You are reminded to complete your renovations and allow enough time to complete your post-retrofit evaluation prior to your 18-month deadline (from the date of the pre-retrofit evaluation) or March 31st, 2011 when the program officially ends.

I have already booked a pre-retrofit evaluation. Will I still be able to go ahead?

Yes. Homeowners who have pre-retrofit evaluations already scheduled remain eligible to apply to the program. However, homeowners are reminded that they are required to complete their renovations and follow-up with a post-retrofit evaluation by March 31, 2011.

What is happening with the Alberta rebate program?

The Alberta rebate program is unchanged. Our rebates will be administered as normal. The federal ecoENERGY Retrofit Program will continue to operate from an administrative perspective. Although federal grant money will no longer be offered to new participants, provincial rebates tied to the program will continue to be offered.

How does the Alberta rebate work for insulation if the rebate is calculated based on 75% of the federal grant?

We will continue to receive information from Natural Resources Canada. They will provide us with a value of what the insulation upgrades would have been awarded in a federal grant. We will still be able to calculate the 75% value and allocate a provincial rebate.

What will happen with the three provincial rebates that are tied to the federal program?

The three rebates that are tied to the federal program will continue to operate unchanged. Participants in the ecoENERGY Retrofit Program will be awarded \$100 off each of the pre-retrofit and post-retrofit evaluations, and will remain eligible for rebates of \$250 and \$300 for domestic hot water upgrades, as well as up to \$3,150 in insulation rebates.

For more information please visit www.ClimateChangeCentral.com or call 1-888-537-7202