Dual-fuel heat pumps are some of the most energy-efficient heating and cooling units available. In a traditional heat pump, when the temperature drops below a certain temperature – which are set per house, and system – electric heat strips kick in, which can greatly increase heating costs. A dual-fuel heat pump has fuel oil, natural gas, and propane as its extreme-cold backup, instead, allowing the unit to work more efficiently and less expensively.

To be eligible, members must agree to have a load management switch or radio control switch (RCS) installed on the electric heat pump. The switch cycling the unit on and off during times of extremely high electricity use – typically on the very hottest, most humid summer days during early morning or eyeing hours. The fan continues to circulate air even when the cooling unit is cycled on and off. Most consumers don’t notice a difference in temperature during cycling. Load management techniques like this one help to keep rates stable for all URE consumers by keeping electric use from reaching a new peak. Every time a new peak is set, a new, higher price for electricity is set, too.

The equipment may serve either a new or existing structure.

A. SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS

1. Qualified Equipment and Installation
   a. Equipment shall be rated according to ARI (Air-conditioning & Refrigeration Institute) test standards and certified by ARI or CSA (Canadian Standards Association) or other nationally recognized testing organizations.
   b. The heat pump shall be a central system or ductless mini-split meeting current minimum federal appliance efficiency standards.
   c. The installer shall be a dealer approved by the participating Cooperative.
   d. Central systems must include properly-sized duct work.
   e. Systems shall be wired according to the Cooperative’s requirements concerning second meters and possible future installation of load control switches for direct load management efforts and in compliance with the National Electric Code and local or Ohio Electric Code requirements.

2. Dealers shall provide to consumer-members, as part of the sales-installation agreement:
   a. Owner’s manual and instruction for equipment operation.
   b. Installation instructions and warranties.
   c. An offer for a maintenance-service contract.

3. The participating dealer or consumer-member shall be required to submit to URE:
   a. Application for rebate.
   b. Upon request by the participating Cooperative, copies of equipment and duct sizing calculations
B. ELIGIBILITY FOR REBATE
   1. The building must be a residential or non-residential structure which uses electricity from a participating Cooperative (that receives power for the facility from OEC).
   2. Rebate is to be paid to the Cooperative consumer who owns the building, or for new construction, the rebate can be paid to the builder/dealer.

C. CONDITIONS OF REBATE
   The Cooperative shall inspect or confirm the installation before issuing the rebate.

D. REBATE
   1. A rebate of $600 will be applied as a bill credit - on the basis of one rebate for each central or ductless mini-split system unit installed that is ENERGY STAR qualified at the time of installation. See www.energystar.gov for current ENERGY STAR heat pump specifications.
   2. The rebate goes to the consumer, or for new construction, the rebate can be paid to the builder/dealer.
   3. A maximum of two rebates may be paid per residential consumer-member home.
   4. A maximum of $2,000 total rebate may be paid for non-residential member-consumer facility with multiple central systems or ductless mini-split heat pumps installed (or 50% of installed project cost, whichever is lower).

E. ANNUAL PROGRAM REVIEW
   The OEC Marketing Committee will annually review this program for continuation as applicable.

updated 07/10/2020