



**State Energy Conservation Office (SECO)  
Municipally Owned Utility (MOU) or Electric Cooperative (Co-op)  
SB-924 Energy Efficiency Report  
Data Entry Form**

MOU or Co-op: Magic Valley Electric Cooperative, Inc.  
 County: Hidalgo, Starr, Willacy, Cameron, Kenedy  
 Contact: Atanacio Hinojosa  
 Contact Title: Business & Employee Development Manager  
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**1) Is your MOU or Co-op hereby reporting on energy efficiency as required by SB-924, PURA Sections 39.9051 and 39.9052?**

Yes     No

**2) Energy Efficiency Goals: Please tell us about the goals that your MOU or Co-op has related to energy efficiency:**

Instructions: Provide a brief description of your MOU or Co-op's energy efficiency goals for the previous calendar year. Examples may include information about energy efficiency for MOU or Co-op customers or utility facilities. Supplemental information may be provided at your option on any long-term energy efficiency goals that your MOU or Co-op might have. Please use a separate sheet of paper if you need more space.

Please see attached

**3) Your MOU or Co-op's Energy Efficiency Programs:**

Instructions: Input information as applicable; add fields as necessary. For the previous calendar year, please list energy efficiency programs and provide applicable estimated achieved savings – energy and/or demand, or other program performance metric (for example participation.) Add additional lines as needed.

Energy Efficiency Program	Estimated Energy Savings or	Estimated Demand Savings or	Other Program Performance Metric
Energy Star for New Homes	190,000 kWh		
<b>Totals</b>	190,000 kWh		

**4) Program Materials / Additional Information**

Instructions: Public information about your energy efficiency programs (brochures, website information, etc.) may be attached and provided with this form.

**5) Please submit this form to SECO at: [SB924.Reporting@cpa.state.tx.us](mailto:SB924.Reporting@cpa.state.tx.us)**

**Magic Valley Electric Cooperative, Inc.**

**State Energy Conservation  
Office  
SB-924  
Energy Efficiency Report**



**2012**

## Magic Valley Electric Cooperative, Inc.

### State Energy Conservation Office Energy Efficiency Report

#### **Magic Valley Electric Cooperative, Inc. Energy Efficiency Programs**

This brief summary describes the energy efficiency activities at Magic Valley Electric Cooperative, Inc. MVEC demonstrates its commitment to energy efficiency activities by investing in activities that educate the MVEC membership about the benefits of energy conservation.

#### **Residential**

##### **A/C & Heat Pump Rebate Program**

MVEC offers its Members a rebate program for the replacement of existing central heat pump, central conventional, and central dual-fuel air conditioning systems for single family dwellings. MVEC will pay rebates based on the efficiency of the installed unit. MVEC will also give weatherization recommendations in order to further improve the efficiency of the home. The payment schedule is as follows:

Single Family				
	Heat Pump		Conv. A/C	
S.E.E.R.	Owner	A/C Dealer	Owner	A/C Dealer
14.0 – 14.99	\$300	\$50	\$225	\$40
15.0 – 15.99	\$350	\$50	\$250	\$40
>16.0	\$400	\$50	\$275	\$40

2009 Rebates paid - \$6,040      2010 Rebates paid - \$16,365      2011 Rebates paid - \$10,805

#### **Energy Audits**

MVEC performs residential energy audits upon request of the Member. MVEC will visually inspect the thermal integrity of the structure, heating and cooling equipment, water heating, and other energy-using equipment, and recommends energy efficient improvements. MVEC also provides a copy of the U.S. Department of Energy - Energy Savers Booklets, in English or Spanish, and a copy of the Touchstone Energy Home Energy Savings Guide, to help educate consumers and help them conserve energy in their home.

### **Marathon Water Heater Program**

In June 2011, MVEC launched its Marathon Water Heater sales program. Members can purchase an energy efficient unit at headquarters and, once installed, may qualify for a \$150 rebate. The units are well insulated and allow for very little heat loss compared to a standard water heater because of the materials used and the way it is manufactured. MVEC has sold 8 units and is actively marketing them towards residential home builders.

### **Heat Pump Water Heater Program**

MVEC also incentivizes this fairly new technology. The Cooperative provides a \$250 rebate per installation and paid out three rebates in 2011. We hope that in the future, more Members will invest in this innovative way of heating household water.

### **New Home Construction**

MVEC assists Members and Builders with energy efficiency design principles that will influence energy conservation measures during the construction phase of the structure. MVEC currently participates in the EPA's Energy Star program and markets the program as the MVEC Energy Star for New Homes program. In 2011, 34 builders were registered for the program and 115 homes were incentivized for being built more efficiently than standard building code. Total rebates paid out for these energy conservation measures were \$40,970. The EPA recognized MVEC for its efforts by naming the Cooperative as an Energy Partner of the Year in March 2012.

MVEC is also an active member in the Rio Grande Valley Home Builders Association and the Lower Rio Grande Valley Builders and Developers Association. MVEC participates in the annual Rio Grande Valley Home Show, where staff provides energy conservation materials and consultation to Members that are planning to build a new home or making energy improvements to their existing home.

### **Interactive Web Site Information – TogetherWeSave.com**

MVEC provides its membership with an interactive website that contains useful tools, valuable tips and resources designed to create greater home comfort and promote energy efficiency. The MVEC web site contains the following items:

- Home Energy Audit Tool - This online audit tool will help you identify the best ways to manage and save energy in homes. The resource quickly calculates home energy use based on a detailed description of the home.
- CFL Light Bulb Calculator – This online calculator shows how much a consumer can save by replacing standard incandescent lights with compact fluorescent light bulbs.

- Quick Tips to Save Energy – This section gives Members ten ideas for saving and conserving energy.
- Water Heating Tips – This section describes the best type of water heater to have and why.
- Air Sealing and Insulation Tips - This section gives helpful tips to avoid air infiltration in homes.
- Stimulus Information – This section provides information about energy-efficiency and weatherization programs, application timelines and requirements.
- Kids Zone – This section provides fun energy activities for kids and is designed for children to learn about electricity, energy savings and electrical safety.

### **Community Presentations**

MVEC routinely provides speakers that will present energy conservation programs to civic clubs, housing authorities, community action agencies, chambers of commerce, and educational institutions in the Rio Grande Valley.

### **Conservation Advertising**

Magic Valley Electric Cooperative provides media advertising in order to educate its members about energy efficiency and conservation. Magic Valley Electric produces radio and TV commercials internally and utilizes Touchstone Energy National Campaign commercials, which are produced in English and Spanish. MVEC also mails each member, on a monthly basis, a copy of The Texas Co-op Power Magazine. The Texas Co-op Power magazine features articles, local stories, and current events dealing with energy conservation, electrical safety, home energy tips, and energy efficiency.

### **Commercial / Industrial**

#### **Commercial Energy Audits**

MVEC performs commercial energy audits upon request of the Member. Trained personnel will visually inspect the HVAC equipment, controls, ventilation, indoor and outdoor lighting, water heating, and other energy-using equipment. Our energy audit team will recommend energy efficiency measures to help commercial/industrial users manage energy costs.

#### **Interactive Web Site Information - Business Energy Advisor**

The Business Energy Advisor is a clearinghouse for energy-use information and energy-saving ideas to help businesses save energy and manage costs. This section also targets rebate programs and identifies resources for businesses in the MVEC area.

The Business Energy Advisor provides the following tools:

- An extensive online library of energy-related technology buyer's guides and management tips.
- Calculator pages that contain links to tools that will help you evaluate the cost-effectiveness of a variety of HVAC, lighting, power quality, refrigeration, and water heating equipment.

- An O&M Advisor that gives you highly detailed information about the steps you can take to improve the performance and energy efficiency of your equipment.
- Detailed information on energy consumption in 10 key market sectors.

## **Conservation Activities**

### **Distributed Generation (Renewable Resources)**

Magic Valley Electric Cooperative recognizes that its Members may be interested in purchasing and operating small generating systems to provide electricity for their home or business. MVEC has developed a Distributed Generation Procedures and Guidelines Manual for Members that provide details of the process to interconnect to MVEC facilities.

#### *Facilities classified as 50 kW of connected generation and smaller*

As part of the interconnection process, Member's must have a special electronic meter installed on their premises. For power produced in excess of on-site requirements, the Member shall be compensated by net metering. The net meter allows the Member to use the electricity they generate first, reducing what they would normally buy from MVEC. If Member generates more electricity than they use, the excess goes through the electric meter and into the grid. The meter shows the net amount, measured as the difference between the electricity they generate to the utility and the electricity they purchase from MVEC.

#### *Facilities classified as greater than 50 kW and less than 700 kW of connected generation*

Determination of billing shall be accomplished by interconnection through two meters with one measuring all energy supplied by the Cooperative and the other measuring all energy supplied by the Member. The Member shall be compensated for energy supplied by the Member at the Cooperative's avoided wholesale power cost. The avoided wholesale power cost shall be defined as the average monthly energy and fuel cost per kWh purchased from the Cooperative's wholesale power supplier during the current billing period.

### **Solar Screens**

In 2011, one of MVEC's energy efficiency committees installed solar screens on all the windows of the Coop's three offices. The solar screens were installed to reduce the amount of energy consumed at the offices by reducing the cooling needs of employees.