Energy Efficiency in Ohio

Energy & Bill Savings for Customers, 2009-2019

Using annual savings data reported by Ohio’s investor-owned utilities, the Midwest Energy Efficiency Alliance (MEEA) has estimated the lifetime energy and energy bill savings that have accumulated to customers since the beginning of Ohio’s energy efficiency resource standard in 2009. Our analysis runs through 2019, the most recent year for which actual savings data are available. Cumulative savings of 67.8 million MWh of electricity have saved Ohio residents and businesses $7.06 billion over the period.

Energy efficiency saves customers money by reducing the amount of electricity that they use. It costs utilities less to reduce the demand for power than to purchase generation to supply electricity. If Ohio’s electricity customers needed to purchase electricity instead of saving it, they could have paid $7.06 billion in additional electric bills over the past 11 years. This compares quite favorably to the $1.6 billion they have paid for energy efficiency in that same period.

Cumulative Energy Savings

Savings from energy efficiency programs do not only accrue in the year the energy efficiency measure was installed but also persist in future years over the useful lifetime of the efficiency measure. This accumulation of savings is shown below.

Figure 1: Annually accumulating lifetime electricity savings from Ohio EE programs, 2009-2019

By 2019, the program year savings plus the persistent savings from previous program years add up to 9.4 million MWh lifetime savings annually in 2019. Cumulatively, the electricity savings that have accrued from Ohio’s energy efficiency resource standard from 2009 through 2019 are 67.8 million megawatt-hours.
Based on the average energy use of an Ohio single-family home, the cumulative electricity savings from utility energy efficiency programs from 2009-2019 are **enough electricity to power every home in Ohio for 1.2 years**. This is also equivalent to enough electricity to power all of the homes in Columbus for 17.5 years, all homes in Cleveland for 35 years, or all homes in Cincinnati for 47 years.

### Customer Bill Savings

Energy efficiency saves customers on their energy bills. The value of those savings depends on the savings in each customer class and the price of electricity. Using data from the US Energy Information Administration (EIA) to estimate the distribution of savings between customer classes and the price of electricity by customer class, we calculated the amount customers have saved on their energy bills from the cumulative electricity savings. **Ohio’s electricity customers have cumulatively saved $7.06 billion** since the beginning of state’s energy efficiency standard since 2009.

### About MEEA

The Midwest Energy Efficiency Alliance is a nonprofit membership organization with 160+ members, including utilities, research institutions, state and local governments, & energy efficiency-related businesses. As the key resource and champion for energy efficiency in the Midwest, MEEA helps a diverse range of stakeholders understand and implement cost-effective energy efficiency strategies that provide economic and environmental benefits.

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