

September/October 2010

# Energy Leader

**VCREA invites you to visit our new website @ [www.vcenergy.org](http://www.vcenergy.org)**

*Regional public agencies and organizations, businesses and individuals all can find relevant information to increase energy efficiency.*

*Register to receive the Energy Leader newsletter and email notification of upcoming technical workshops and events. If you have already registered remember to update your contact information as needed.*

*Energy Service Vendors are encouraged to register to inform the public of services and products available.*

*Look for regular updates and additional information significant to our region. Your comments and input would be greatly appreciated.*

**For information about VCREA and Energy Efficiency in the Ventura County region contact:**

VCREA  
1000 S. Hill Road, Suite 230  
Ventura, California 93003

Tel: (805) 289-3335

Fax: (805) 289-3111

Email:

[vcreea.admin@ventura.org](mailto:vcreea.admin@ventura.org)

Website: [www.vcenergy.org](http://www.vcenergy.org)

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*A Publication of the Ventura County Regional Energy Alliance  
Home of the Ventura County Energy Resource Center*

## **"REACH CODES"**

### **Codes and Standards Workshop for Decision Makers in the Public and Private Sector**

**Presented by Southern California Gas Company and Southern California Edison  
Wednesday, October 6  
9:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.**

**Technology Development Center – 5200 Valentine Road, Ventura**

The California Energy Commission has set forth a roadmap for energy efficiency in California through the year 2020 and beyond. One of the important goals of the plan concerns energy use for new construction in the residential market to be zero net by 2020; as well, the energy use goal for new commercial construction to be zero net by 2030. Both of these objectives can positively affect carbon reduction and support the attainment of greenhouse gas targets. In order to reach these goals, it is useful for decision-makers in the public and private sectors to join together for an informative session to learn how reach codes can be implemented, meet the test of cost effectiveness and compliment both the existing California Building Code (Title 24) and California Green Building Code.

The workshop has been developed through a collaborative process involving the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC), Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E), Southern California Edison (SCE), San Diego Gas & Electric Company (SDG&E) and Southern California Gas Company (SoCalGas), and will be presented in Ventura County on October 6, 2010.

To register, contact VCREA: online at [www.vcenergy.org](http://www.vcenergy.org); email: [VCREA.Admin@ventura.org](mailto:VCREA.Admin@ventura.org); phone: (805) 289-3335; or, fax (805) 289-3111.

## **Energy Efficiency Opportunities for Manufacturers**

**Presented by Economic Development Collaborative Ventura County  
and Ventura County Regional Energy Alliance  
with support of Southern California Gas Company and Southern California Edison**

**Tuesday, October 12, 2010**

**Coffee & Networking: 7:30 a.m.; Workshop: 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.**

**Thousand Oaks Civic Center, 2100 Thousand Oaks Blvd., Thousand Oaks**

Local manufacturers are invited to gather with economic development leaders at a morning networking workshop for the purpose of understanding how energy efficiency can benefit the bottom-line.

This briefing is scheduled for the benefit of introducing and informing business and industry customers to various energy efficiency rebates, incentives and technologies that can be instituted and will support advanced metering ("smart meters") expected to begin rolling-out in the Ventura County region by 2011.

This session will include business leaders from VCREA's Technical Advisory Council providing an overview of energy issues in the State, as well as local case studies that illustrate opportunities available to leverage various ratepayer funds, federal tax credits, and loan programs that are offered through EDC-VC.

To register, contact VCREA: online at [www.vcenergy.org](http://www.vcenergy.org); email: [VCREA.Admin@ventura.org](mailto:VCREA.Admin@ventura.org); phone: (805) 289-3335; or, fax (805) 289-3111.

## VENTURA PARTNERSHIP NEWS



An EDISON INTERNATIONAL® Company

### Southern California Edison

#### Small & Medium Business Direct Install Program

Today's economy is especially challenging for small businesses. Many are aggressively seeking ways to cut expenses and better manage operating costs. Southern California Edison understands how energy costs can impact your bottom line. . . that's why we offer the Direct Install program.

The Direct Install program is an excellent way for your business to reduce energy costs and save money. This effortless program provides qualifying businesses with *FREE* energy-efficient products, *FREE* installation and long-term energy savings.

#### How the Program Works

SCE has contracted with highly-skilled energy efficiency experts who will come and evaluate your facility, *free of charge*, to identify energy savings opportunities.

With your approval, the contractor will install *FREE* energy-efficient replacement equipment. By replacing the less efficient equipment with new, energy-efficient technology, your business will reduce its energy use, carbon footprint and electric bill – *all at no cost to you*.

Our approved contractor will take 5–10 minutes to complete the energy assessment and make recommendations to improve the energy efficiency of your business. If you agree with the recommendations, the contractor will ask you to sign an Authorization Form and schedule an appointment for a convenient time to install the equipment. Installation of recommended energy-efficient equipment will take less than two hours and your business can remain open.

#### What You'll Receive

Qualified SCE business customers using less than 100kW monthly are eligible for a *FREE* energy evaluation and savings analysis, *FREE* energy-efficient products that include: Fluorescent Lighting, Refrigeration (door closers, suction line insulation and strip curtains), LED Signs (Open and Exit), Window Film, Occupancy sensors, Vending Misers, Programmable Thermostats; and, *FREE* Product Installation.

Participation in the program is limited to times when an SCE contractor is scheduled to be in your community. The program is currently being offered in Ventura County, and is expected to conclude at the end of 2010.

For more information on when contractors will be in your area, call (800) 736-4777 or visit SCE's website and view the Direct Install Community Calendar at <http://www.sce.com/direct-install>; and, for other low cost opportunities for your business visit SCE's website at <http://www.sce.com/business/ems/smallbusiness/default.htm>.



A Sempra Energy utility®

### Southern California Gas Company

#### Advanced Metering

As part of our commitment to help meet the region's energy demands, Southern California Gas Company (SoCalGas®) is making changes to help you get more information about your energy use and find the best ways to save. One of these changes is advanced meters. SoCalGas will upgrade all gas meters with advanced meters in the region over seven years, starting in 2010. The installation of the meters will begin in mid 2012.

Advanced meters record how much gas you use each hour, as opposed to the once-a-month meter read you currently receive. The data is communicated through a radio network back to SoCalGas, formatted, and provided to you on a next-day basis. In the future, you'll get this timely energy use information at your home or business. This information can help you understand how you are using energy so you can make changes to conserve natural resources and save money.

SoCalGas and the state have aggressively championed many energy conservation efforts. Advanced meters and the information they provide can help save energy, help you better manage your energy bill, and help the environment by reducing greenhouse gasses.

The energy use information collected by your advanced meter will allow you to better manage your energy use and associated costs. In addition, we anticipate passing operational savings to customers within two years of full deployment.

Because advanced meters send information electronically to SoCalGas daily, SoCalGas' meter readers will no longer have to enter your property. In addition, we anticipate enhanced meter reading and billing accuracy with the new advanced meters. For quality assurance purposes, meter readers will continue to read your advanced meter for the first few months.

After full deployment, advanced meters will provide improved air quality by reducing CO2 emissions. Reductions come from the energy customers will save and from SoCalGas removing vehicles from the road.

In the future, advanced meters can provide additional benefits, including sending you a notification when your bill reaches a certain amount and potentially controlling smart appliances at your home or business through the Internet.

For more information on the Advanced Metering Initiative visit the SoCalGas website at <http://www.socalgas.com/ami/#overview>.

## Calendar of Events

<p><b>Wednesday, September 8</b> 7:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. <b>The Gas Company's</b> <b>Energy Resource Center</b> 9420 Firestone Boulevard Downey</p>	<p><b>Special Energy Conference – Energy Sustainability: Pathways, Policies and Pitfalls</b> This conference will examine how the energy solutions for California in 2010 and beyond will affect you and your company. Sustainable energy, its paths, policy implications and potential pitfalls to businesses will be explored. The conference will present the impact of government policies, incentives, risk management, SEC disclosures, community and market solutions. <b>For more information including cost and registration visit:</b> <a href="http://www.aeesocal.org/AEE_SoCal_Annual_Conference.html">www.aeesocal.org/AEE_SoCal_Annual_Conference.html</a></p>
<p><b>Wednesday, September 22</b> 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. (Seminar #22942) <b>The Gas Company's</b> <b>Energy Resource Center</b> 9420 Firestone Boulevard Downey</p>	<p><b>DOE: Process Heating End-User (PHAST)</b> This U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) one-day training session includes an introduction to process heating and equipment such as furnaces, ovens, dryers, heaters, kilns, etc., used by the Industry. The opportunity is co-sponsored by the DOE, California Energy Commission and The Gas Company. <b>For seminar details or to register for seminars, call 800-427-6584 and select option one; or, online <a href="http://www.seminars.socalgas.com">www.seminars.socalgas.com</a> or email: <a href="mailto:erc@socalgas.com">erc@socalgas.com</a></b></p>
<p><b>Wednesday, September 22</b> (#A6666) 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. <b>Southern California</b> <b>Edison's</b> <b>Ventura Service Center</b> 10060 Telegraph Rd., Ventura</p>	<p><b>Title 24 Energy Efficiency Standards – What to Expect</b> Architects, builders, planners, inspectors, and anyone interested in learning about updated Title 24 codes and standards will benefit from this seminar. Topics include building envelope, lighting and mechanical requirements that affect building design for new construction projects beginning in 2009. The new standards are aimed at further reducing peak energy consumption and incorporating greater energy efficiency measures. (4 AIA/HSW Learning Units) <b>To enroll, and for more information visit SCE online @ <a href="http://www.sce.com/workshops">www.sce.com/workshops</a>; or, call: 626-812-7537 or 800-336-2822</b></p>
<p><b>Thursday, October 21</b> 10:15 a.m. 1001 Partridge Dr., Suite 150, Ventura</p>	<p><b>VCREA Quarterly Board Meeting</b> The VCREA Board meeting is open to the public. The agenda is available on the website: <a href="http://www.vcenergy.org">www.vcenergy.org</a></p>
<p><b>Wednesday, October 27</b> 8:00 a.m. – 12 Noon <b>Technology Development</b> <b>Center</b> 5200 Valentine Road Ventura</p>	<p><b>Exterior Lighting: LED, Induction, HPS, Metal Halide, Plasma, Fluorescent – Presented by Stan Walerczyk of Lighting Wizards</b> Lighting specialists, architects, builders, inspectors and those interested in new trends and options for outdoor lighting will appreciate this half-day session. <b>To register, contact VCREA office 289-3335 or visit our website: <a href="http://www.vcenergy.org">www.vcenergy.org</a></b></p>

*All dates/topics are subject to change and provided to open discussion of regional interest and need.*

### **California Cash For Appliances Rebate Program Expanded and Extended Until Funds are Depleted**

Consumers can combine these rebates with existing rebates offered by California utilities or appliance manufacturers. To see energy products that qualify for rebates, check out Flex Your Power at [www.fypower.org](http://www.fypower.org) and the ENERGY STAR® website at [www.energystar.gov](http://www.energystar.gov).

Follow three easy steps and get your rebate today: 1) **BUY** – Select and purchase an eligible energy-efficient appliance that is rated higher than ENERGY STAR® standards from a participating retailer or partner. A list of eligible appliances and retailers can be found at: [www.cash4appliances.org](http://www.cash4appliances.org); 2) **RECYCLE** – To receive a rebate you must recycle your existing, inefficient appliance. Your inefficient appliance can be recycled through an Energy Commission platinum partner, utility buy-back program OR you must take your appliance to a certified appliance recycler. A platinum retailer or certified appliance recycler will provide you with the recycling form to attach to your rebate application; 3) **SAVE** – Get Cash and Save Energy; a list of rebates can be found at [www.cash4appliances.org](http://www.cash4appliances.org). Your rebate package must include: a completed rebate application, a completed proof of recycling form; copy of original receive or an original rebate request; purchaser's utility bill. Mail-in completed rebate application package within 120 days of purchase until funds are depleted.

**For program rules and more information visit [www.cash4appliances.org](http://www.cash4appliances.org)**

## VCREA Member Agencies:

County of Ventura  
City of Ventura  
City of Oxnard  
City of Santa Paula  
City of Thousand Oaks  
Ventura Regional Sanitation District  
Ventura County Community College District  
Casitas Municipal Water District  
Ventura Unified School District  
City of Camarillo  
City of Fillmore

## VCREA Mission

To establish Ventura County, its communities and neighboring regions as the leader in developing and implementing durable, sustainable energy initiatives that support sensible growth, healthy environment and economy, enhanced quality of life and greater self-reliance for the region by:

1. Reducing energy demand and increasing energy efficiency and
2. Advancing the use of clean, efficient and renewable local resources.



## Energy Leader

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### **SCE Sponsors Building Operator Certification (BOC) Level I Certification Course Series Starts Wednesday, September 15, 2010 and Concludes Wednesday, March 16, 2011**

Certification is earned by demonstrating a knowledge of and an ability to apply the essentials of effective and energy-efficient operations and maintenance. Individuals who have earned this certification gain improved job skills and are able to operate and maintain more comfortable, efficient facilities.

**For more information and to register for go to: [http://www.theboc.info/ca/schedule\\_ca.html](http://www.theboc.info/ca/schedule_ca.html)**

Cost: \$1295 per participant, and \$895 for a second registrant or more from the same company.

Location: Sherman Oaks – Courtyard by Marriott, 15433 Ventura Blvd., Sherman Oaks, 91403

### **Ventura College Community Education presents cleanedison LEED Green Associate One Day Course – Tuition \$345.00**

**September 20, 2010 or December 6, 2010 from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.**

CleanEdison's live, one-day course covers everything you need to know to pass, and qualify you to take, the LEED Green Associate exam. The course will include: overview of LEED and the LEED Process; a review of all LEED ratings systems; review of green building concepts such as vegetated roofs, rapidly renewable materials, on site renewable energy, and low-emitting materials; U.S. Green Building Council core curriculum: Sustainable Sites, Water Efficiency, Energy and Atmosphere, Materials and Resources, and Indoor Environmental Quality; overview of Innovation in Design, Innovation in Operations and Regional Priority Credits; LEED Credit Synergies; test taking tips; and, formulating a study schedule.

**For information and to register online: [www.communityed.venturacollege.edu](http://www.communityed.venturacollege.edu) or call 805-654-6459**

### **SCG Hosts Certified Green Building Professional (CGBP) Course Tuesday, September 21 and Wednesday, September 22**

**Advanced CGBP on Thursday, September 23 and Friday, September 24**

**For more information and to register for go to: <http://www.builditgreen.org>**

The Build It Green CGBP training will help you establish yourself in this profitable niche and distinguish yourself from your competitors. The Advanced CGBP is a two-day how-to course designed to provide construction professionals with a practical, comprehensive, step-by-step process to effectively upgrade and remodel existing homes in all aspects of a green home.

Cost before 8/21/10: Members \$350, Non-Members \$400; After 8/21/10 Members \$400, Non-Members \$450

Location: The Gas Company's Energy Resource Center, 9240 Firestone Blvd., Downey, 90241

### **VCREA Coordination Brings BOC Level II Certification Course Series to Ventura County Starts Tuesday, September 28, 2010 and Concludes Tuesday, February 15, 2011**

This course series provides 61 hours of classroom training, project assignments completed at the facility, and in-class exams administered at the end of each day of training; will be coming to our region to build upon the Level I series offered last year. BOC level II is intended for operators who have been BOC I certified and those who desire advanced training.

**For more information and to register for go to: [http://www.theboc.info/ca/schedule\\_ca.html](http://www.theboc.info/ca/schedule_ca.html)**

Cost: \$1295 per participant, and \$895 for a second registrant or more from the same company.

Location: Technology Development Center, 5200 Valentine Road, Ventura

### **Ventura College Community Education presents cleanedison Energy Audit Training - BPI Certification – Tuition \$1,595.00**

**4/5 day course starts on November 15, 2010 – Tomorrow's Job Today!**

Train to become an energy efficiency auditor and earn your BPI Certification (Building Performance Institute) in only one week. A recent study by the California Community Colleges' Centers of Excellence indicates that the need for building auditors will increase by 54% over the next three years throughout South Central California. Individuals in the fields of construction, design, inspection, contracting, and utilities will want to take this new course to learn to identify the relationships among overall performance, efficiency and durability. Class participants will learn to target, diagnose, and recommend procedures to remedy inefficient building performance. Course fee includes classroom training (1 full day + 2 half-days), field training (2 half-days), course materials, study materials, BPI application fees, written exam fee and field exam fee. The written and field exams will be held on Day 4 and 5 of the course.

**For information and to register online: [www.communityed.venturacollege.edu](http://www.communityed.venturacollege.edu) or call 805-654-6459**