



OREGON
DEPARTMENT OF
ENERGY

Home Energy Rebate Programs HOMES Deep Dive Public Listening Session

October 2023

AGENDA

- Introduction to where the funding comes from, rough timeline, related programs, and Justice40
- HOMES program intro and Q & A
- Guiding questions discussion





OREGON DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Leading Oregon to a safe, equitable, clean, and sustainable energy future.

Our Mission

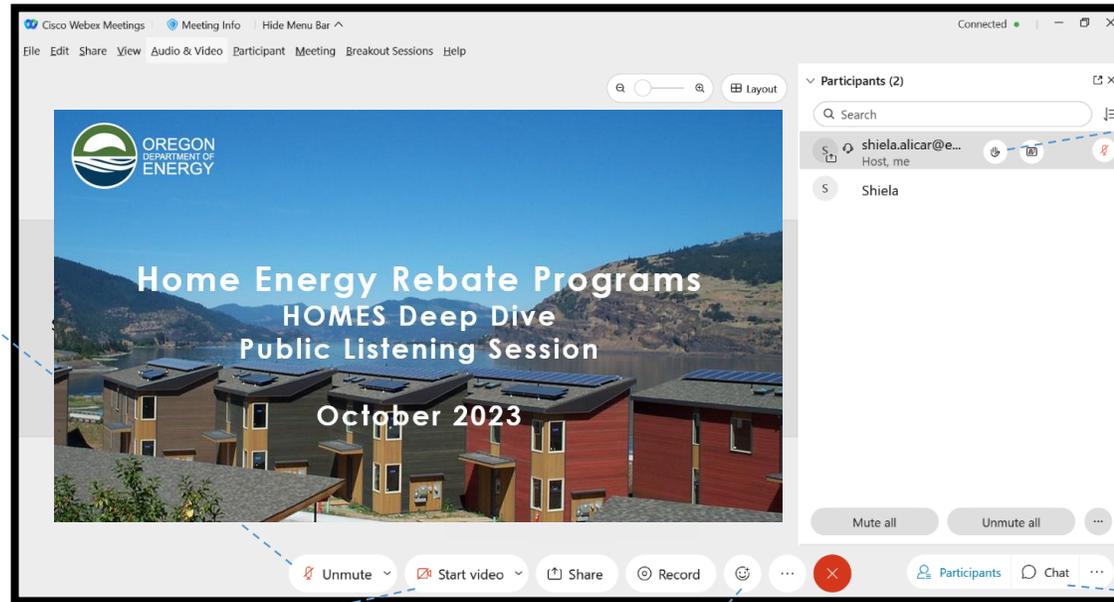
The Oregon Department of Energy helps Oregonians make informed decisions and maintain a resilient and affordable energy system. We advance solutions to shape an equitable clean energy transition, protect the environment and public health, and responsibly balance energy needs and impacts for current and future generations.

What We Do

On behalf of Oregonians across the state, the Oregon Department of Energy achieves its mission by providing:

- A Central Repository of Energy Data, Information, and Analysis
- A Venue for Problem-Solving Oregon's Energy Challenges
- Energy Education and Technical Assistance
- Regulation and Oversight
- Energy Programs and Activities

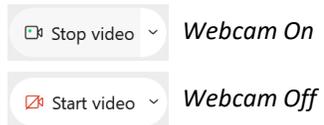
USING WEBEX



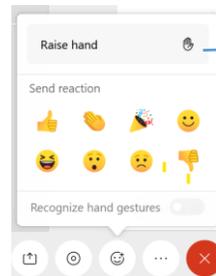
Audio Options



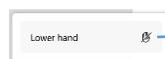
Video Options



Reactions



Click to Raise your hand.



Click on Lower hand when you are done.

Second Raise Hand Option

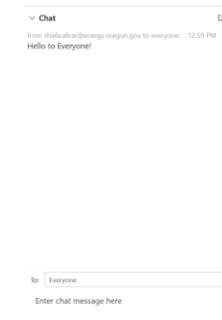
You can also click on the hand next to your name in the Participant list to raise your hand.

Click on Lower hand when you are done.



Chat

You can chat to Everyone in the meeting.



You can send a private message to the Host or Presenter (or all Panelists when there is a Panel).



HOME ENERGY REBATES

The U.S. Congress passed a large federal package known as the **2022 Inflation Reduction Act** that included a number of grants, tax incentives, and rebates to help consumers lower their energy usage and save on energy bills. The Home Energy Rebates are a pair of programs that are available to states through the U.S. Department of Energy.

HOMES

- Home Efficiency Rebate Program
- Performance-based rebates for energy efficiency retrofits

HEAR

- Home Electrification and Appliance Rebate Program
- Rebates for high-efficiency electric appliances and certain associated upgrades

Rebates ≠ Tax Credits

Unlike the Home Energy Rebates, the Energy Efficient Home Improvement Credit is available this tax year (2023) through the IRS.

ODOE are not tax professionals. Please speak with a licensed tax professional about this tax credit.

- Tax credits up to \$3,200
- File with your tax return
- Primary residence, in most cases
- Credits reduce federal tax owed
- Qualified expense on or after Jan. 1, 2023, and before Jan. 1, 2033
- [Energy Efficient Home Improvement Credit | Internal Revenue Service \(irs.gov\)](#)
- [Energy Star Tax Credits for Homeowners](#)
- **NEW!** [Credit for builders of energy-efficient homes | Internal Revenue Service \(irs.gov\)](#)

PROGRAMS WORKING TOGETHER

ODOE is preparing for the Home Energy Rebates by aligning program goals and policies from several different complimentary programs.



Justice40

On January 27, 2021, President Biden signed Executive Order 14008, which set forth prioritizing actions to tackle the climate crisis. Included was the Justice40 Initiative, which directs that 40% of the benefits of certain federal investments flow to communities that are marginalized, underserved, and overburdened. The Home Energy Rebates are programs covered under the Justice40 Initiative and it is ODOE's intent to achieve those goals with these rebates in Oregon.

- Defined by the Council on Environmental Quality
- Overburdened and Underserved
- Census Tracts
- Tribes
- Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool (CEJST)

Some reminders...

This discussion is meant to be a public listening session and to delve deeply into the technical aspects of the HOMES program.

We are not able to answer questions about specific projects in this forum.

If you want to discuss technical program details for the HEAR program, join us tomorrow for a deep dive conversation specific to HEAR.

- HEAR October 11 at 2 p.m.

If you have a project-related question for ODOE staff, please send us an email at:

- Stephanie.Kruse@energy.oregon.gov (HOMES) or
- Will.Mulhern@energy.oregon.gov (HEAR) and we will follow up with you outside this meeting.

HOMES: HOME EFFICIENCY REBATE PROGRAM

Performance based home energy efficiency rebate program

- Individual households and multifamily housing buildings are eligible
- Must demonstrate a minimum of 15% for measured savings or **20% for modeled savings to be eligible for rebates**
- Higher rebates available for households that save 35% or more
- USDOE allows for retroactivity



What is an eligible Energy Efficiency upgrade in the HOMES program?

Energy efficiency projects ultimately reduce the energy use in a home or building such as:

- Energy management updates like installing smart thermostats
- Installing more efficient heating or cooling equipment (heat pumps, high efficiency condensing furnaces, on demand water heaters, etc.)
- Weatherization measures like air sealing and adding insulation

Discussion

We invite you to weigh in on the following questions to help inform our program design. Please raise your hand to be called on or drop your response in the chat.

- HOMES-specific Questions
- General Questions

HOMES-specific Questions

HOMES rebates will require demonstrated energy savings of a minimum of 15% of the household energy use for projects to be eligible. This can be demonstrated using a modeled or a measured approach.

- ▶ What considerations, feedback or recommendations do you have for ODOE's program design on this requirement?

HOMES-specific Questions

U.S. DOE gives states the ability to make the HOMES program retroactive. Most states have reservations about the technical logistics and challenge to meeting equity requirements if retroactivity is allowed.

- ▶ What considerations should we take into account as we design this program for Oregon?

HOMES-specific Questions

HOMES rebate amounts will not cover 100% of the project costs, and while stacking with other programs is possible, it is still likely that some of the project costs will need to be covered by the participant.

- ▶ Despite this, do you have recommendations and considerations for reaching Justice40 and other disadvantaged communities with this program?

- ▶ How can ODOE ensure rebates reach low-income and disadvantaged communities that live in multifamily housing, such as apartment complexes, condos, or duplexes?
- ▶ What considerations should be made to encourage landlords to allow for energy efficient upgrades that benefit their tenants?

General Questions

USDOE requires ODOE to submit a consumer protection plan as part of its application for the HOMES and HEAR programs. This must include:

- A system for collecting and responding to consumer feedback
- Resolution procedures
- Data review process
- Onsite inspections strategy
- A qualified contractor list
- Installation standards

What are your suggestions for the development of a strong consumer protection plan?

General Questions

Rebates will also support the economy and jobs, such as contractors who will install energy upgrades.

- ▶ What support or resources do you see contractors, program implementers and other energy efficiency workforce needing to be ready to implement the HOMES program?

General Questions

What else do you want to make sure ODOE considers during design of the HOMES and HEAR programs?

Wrap-up Question

Thanks for joining us!

Contact:

HOMES

Stephanie.Kruse@energy.oregon.gov

HEAR

Will.Mulhern@energy.oregon.gov

Comment Portal: <https://forms.office.com/g/hWguZcqKRv>

Upcoming Deep Dives:

HEAR – Weds, 10/11@ 2pm

<https://www.oregon.gov/energy/energy-oregon/Pages/IIJA.aspx>