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Contact: Brenna McCabe

[\(401\) 222-2277](tel:(401)222-2277)

Brenna.McCabe@doa.ri.gov



New Energy Efficiency Program Announced for Block Island

Offers Local Businesses, Year-Round Residents Free Energy Audits, Incentives

Providence, R.I., – The Rhode Island Office of Energy Resources (OER) today kicked off the Block Island Saves Program to help New Shoreham businesses and year-round residents save money and reduce their carbon footprint. The program offers property owners free energy audits and incentives to increase their energy efficiency.

“This program marks an important step forward in building a robust clean energy economy in Rhode Island,” said Governor Gina Raimondo. “I applaud all partners involved in bringing this innovative program to Block Island and helping residents reduce their energy burden. Together, we are building a healthier and more efficient Rhode Island.”

The Block Island Saves Program extends energy-saving solutions readily available on the mainland to New Shoreham. Discounts and incentives are offered for lighting upgrades, air sealing, building and pipe insulation, and low-flow faucets and shower heads. In addition, guidance is offered on appliance and furnace improvements. The program comes on the heels of a successful pilot which involved 15 New Shoreham property owners.

“Rhode Island’s portfolio of clean energy policies and programs are reducing energy costs for local consumers and creating new employment opportunities throughout the economy,” Sen. V. Susan Sosnowski said. “I applaud OER for launching this important initiative in New Shoreham. The initial success of the Block Island Saves program demonstrates why I remain a strong supporter of comprehensive efficiency programs that can benefit our consumers, strengthen our economy, and protect our environment.”

“I’m happy to work with OER to bring this smart program to our island,” said Rep. Blake Filippi. “Year-round Block Island residents and businesses now have the opportunity to participate in these efficient

energy conservation efforts. Lower costs and environmental preservation is the right combination for us."

"The Block Island Saves program is one more example of how OER is leading Rhode Island toward a more secure, cost-effective, and sustainable energy future," State Energy Commissioner Marion S. Gold said. "This important program fills a notable gap in statewide access to comprehensive efficiency programs and measures that reduce energy costs for Rhode Island homes and businesses, while creating jobs and reducing our emissions profile. Furthermore, it demonstrates that efficiency can often be achieved at a fraction of the cost of traditional supply."

"Block Island is happy for the expert assistance provided by the Office of Energy Resources in this endeavor," said Nancy Dodge, New Shoreham town manager. "This program is extending to the island the energy efficiency benefits available on the mainland, and we look forward to continued participation as this program is extended to all businesses and year-round residents."

To schedule a free, no-obligation energy audit, contact **RISE Engineering** at [1-877-784-3709](tel:1-877-784-3709). For more information on the Block Island Saves Program, visit www.energy.ri.gov/efficiency/BI.

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