

Iowa Energy Efficiency Fact Sheet



Iowa has been an Energy Efficiency Leader

- Iowa first adopted energy efficiency legislation in 1989.¹
- In 2016, recognizing the importance of energy efficiency, Iowa established *Energy Efficiency and Conservation* as one of the four main pillars of the IOWA ENERGY PLAN, December 2016.²
- Under Iowa's strong efficiency policies, Iowa Investor-Owned Utilities (IOU's), MidAmerican Energy and Alliant Energy, invested in Energy Efficiency to save 2,508 GWh between 2014 and 2018 – the equivalent of a 300 MW fossil fuel fired power plant.³
- Between 2014 and 2018, these efficiency requirements led Iowa IOU's to invest \$804.8 million in energy efficiency programs to permanently reduce electric demand.⁴
- Legislation in 2018 significantly rolled back utility-led efficiency. It is time for Iowa to look at new opportunities for saving energy and cutting waste.¹
- MidAmerican Energy and Alliant Energy, invested in Energy Efficiency to save 423 GWh in 2019 and 2020 for an average savings of 212 GWh/year compared to the average savings of 502 GWh/year from 2014 through 2018. A reduction in savings of over 50%.
- **Iowa Can Still Cut Energy Waste Significantly** In 2001, a study conducted by S.W. Hadley identified the market potential for electrical energy savings of 2385 GWh by 2020.⁵
- The latest study conducted for the Iowa Utility Association in 2017, shows Iowa continues to have a significant potential to cost effectively reduce electricity consumption by 17% over a ten-year period.⁶

Iowa's Increasing Energy Efficiency through Recommended Actions

- Iowa should adopt, implement, and enforce the 2018 International Energy Conservation Code.
- Iowa should ensure that local jurisdictions are authorized to adopt standards more stringent than the State Energy Codes if they choose.
- Cities should adopt and fully enforce strong city building energy efficiency codes.
 - Establish city tax deductions or credits for the purchase of energy-efficient equipment.
 - Establish financing programs for energy efficiency.
 - Adopt energy efficiency benchmarking ordinances as well as energy audit and energy savings implementation measures.
- Renters should have access to information about energy costs before they sign a lease.²
- Lawmakers could also consider incentivizing utilities to do energy efficiency by allowing them to earn a return on energy efficiency expenditures for providing successful programs.

¹ [ENERGY EFFICIENCY MEASURES, 1989 Acts, Chapter 297, §13.](#)

² [Iowa Energy Plan, Efficiency Measures and Conservation, pp. 34-47.](#)

³ Annual Energy Efficiency Plan (EEP) filings with the Iowa Utilities Board.

⁴ *Id.*

¹ [CH1135.pdf \(iowa.gov\)](#)

⁵ [The Potential for Energy Efficiency in the State of Iowa](#), S.W. Hadley, June 2001.

⁶ [Assessment of Iowa's Energy Efficiency Potential](#), Dunsky Energy Consulting, September 25, 2017.

¹ [Iowa Legislature: HF669](#)