

# NEWS

For Immediate Release  
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## **New report shows Oregonians saved \$396 million on energy bills in 2016**

*In Southern Oregon, more than 10,900 homeowners and businesses benefited from clean energy upgrades*

Medford, Ore. — July 17, 2017 — Energy Trust of Oregon announced today its 2016 annual results, including cutting \$396 million from participating customers' utility bills. In 2016, the nonprofit organization exceeded its electric and natural gas energy-efficiency goals and supported the installation of a record 1,200 customer-owned residential solar systems.

With cash incentives, information and a network of 2,400 contractors and allied professionals, Energy Trust helped homeowners, renters, businesses, manufacturers, farmers and ranchers at more than 80,000 locations across the state cut costs with affordable, energy-saving installations.

“Oregonians might be surprised to learn how much economic activity results from making smart energy choices,” said Michael Colgrove, executive director, Energy Trust. “When people spend less on energy, they can spend more on their families, homes and businesses—freeing up resources that flow into communities, creating jobs and boosting wages. By investing in energy efficiency and renewable energy, Energy Trust has spurred \$5.7 billion in local economic activity since 2002.”

Energy Trust works closely with utilities to ensure customers have access to clean energy programs. Energy Trust programs are available to 1.6 million utility customers of Portland General Electric, Pacific Power, NW Natural, Cascade Natural Gas and Avista.

Energy Trust investments have kept 20 million tons of carbon dioxide out of the atmosphere — equal to removing 3.5 million cars from Oregon roads for a year. Since 2002, Oregonians working with Energy Trust have saved and generated enough energy to power 564,000 average Oregon homes and heat another 100,000 homes — equal the output of an entire power plant.

### **Southern Oregon residents, businesses benefited from clean energy at more than 10,900 locations**

In 2016, Southern Oregon customers of Pacific Power, NW Natural and Avista invested in energy-efficient and renewable energy upgrades at more than 10,900 homes and businesses.

- In Roseburg, Energy Trust has helped Umpqua Dairy on more than 15 energy-efficiency projects since 2003. “The more we save, the more we can produce, which translates into more jobs and higher wages,” said Andy Couch, director of engineering, Umpqua Dairy. Altogether, the third-generation family business has achieved annual energy cost savings of \$105,000 and received almost \$184,000 in Energy Trust cash incentives.

See detailed 2016 results and more customer stories at [www.energytrust.org/annualreport](http://www.energytrust.org/annualreport).

As an independent nonprofit organization, Energy Trust helps meet Oregon's energy needs with the cheapest and cleanest options available. On-the-ground outreach, technical services, cash-back incentives and connections to local contractors help participants cut costs with affordable, clean energy solutions. Energy Trust also helps customers power their homes and businesses with renewable energy from solar, biopower, hydropower, wind and geothermal sources.

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