

NEWS

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For Immediate Release
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Central Oregon residents and businesses save more than \$22 million with Energy Trust of Oregon in 2018

BEND, Ore. — July 15, 2019 — In its 2018 annual report published today, Energy Trust of Oregon revealed that its residential and business customers saved millions of dollars last year on their utility bills, thanks to their participation in Energy Trust's energy efficiency and renewable energy programs.

Across Central Oregon, more than 3,000 customers of Pacific Power and Cascade Natural Gas participated in Energy Trust's programs in 2018. By improving the energy efficiency of their homes and businesses, and by generating clean renewable energy, Central Oregon customers saved more than \$22.9 million on their energy bills in 2018 alone.

One such customer is Three Sisters Irrigation District in Sisters, Ore. Three Sisters Irrigation District is one of eight irrigation districts in the Deschutes Basin that is modernizing its century-old open irrigation canals. These open canals can lose 50% of water to evaporation and seepage.

With Energy Trust support, Farmers Conservation Alliance (FCA) is helping Three Sisters Irrigation District and other communities across Oregon to modernize their aging irrigation systems, often creating opportunities to generate electricity through in-pipe hydropower.

FCA's Irrigation Modernization program has received widespread support, thanks to a unique public/private partnership that brought funding from Energy Trust and 15 different federal and state organizations, totaling almost \$50 million so far. Three Sisters Irrigation District has already piped 59 of its 64 miles of canals and will have three hydropower facilities generating clean energy and providing a long-term revenue source for the district.

See detailed 2018 results and more customer stories at www.energytrust.org/annualreport.

Statewide, Energy Trust's customers saved \$418 million on their utility bills in 2018

In 2018, Energy Trust supported energy-efficiency upgrades and renewable energy installations at more than 48,000 Oregon and Southwest Washington homes, businesses, factories and farms through a network of more than 2,300 trade ally contractors.

In total, Energy Trust delivered \$94.3 million in cash incentives for energy efficiency and renewable energy investments to customers of Portland General Electric, Pacific Power, NW Natural, Cascade Natural Gas and Avista. Since 2002, Energy Trust has invested \$1.8 billion in utility customer funds to deliver benefits including \$7.7 billion in total utility bill savings over time and \$7.3 billion added to Oregon's economy.

“When we save energy, utilities do not need to generate, purchase or distribute it to meet the needs of their customers,” said Michael Colgrove, executive director, Energy Trust. “This saves customers money and more. The benefits of energy efficiency also include a healthier environment from fewer carbon dioxide emissions, stronger local economies and more resilient communities.”

In 2018, Energy Trust also developed 10 diversity, equity and inclusion goals to reach new customers and better reflect the communities it serves through new program designs and deeper relationships with local organizations. Among these new goals, Energy Trust has pledged to expand participation of minority- and women-owned businesses in its Trade Ally Network by 50% and to increase the number of projects completed with these businesses by 15%.

These new diversity, equity and inclusion goals have helped guide Energy Trust’s strategic plan for 2020-2024. To find out more information about Energy Trust’s draft 2020-2024 Strategic Plan and submit feedback, visit www.energytrust.org/strategicplan. Public comment is accepted through Friday, August 2, 2019.

Energy Trust of Oregon is an independent nonprofit organization dedicated to helping utility customers benefit from saving energy and generating renewable power. Our services, cash incentives and energy solutions have helped participating customers of Portland General Electric, Pacific Power, NW Natural, Cascade Natural Gas and Avista save \$3.4 billion on energy bills. Our work helps keep energy costs as low as possible, creates jobs and builds a sustainable energy future. Learn more at www.energytrust.org or call 1-866-368-7878.

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