

Bay Area Multifamily Building Enhancements Program

Client: Bay Area Regional Energy Network (BayREN)
2013-ongoing

Multifamily properties have been notoriously reluctant to participate in energy upgrade programs. Most find savings too meager and the process too cumbersome. Frontier Energy’s approach is to streamline and customize the rebate approach for custom multifamily projects in the Bay Area. Each year, the program has been fully subscribed and awarded additional funding to increase participation.

Frontier Energy leads a team of field analysts and quality assurance specialists who engage multifamily property owners and guide them through the rebate scoping and application process. Participants receive in-field and remote technical assistance to ensure their applications meet program requirements, and the Frontier Energy team reviews and approves applications for rebate payment.

By December 2019, BayREN’s Multifamily program had completed projects for 37,130 units with an average of 16% in energy savings and over \$27.8 million in rebates processed.

“It is a great opportunity for people to take on things they have been putting off and it is easy to do.”



John Gianaras
Property Owner
680 Lincoln Apartments
Napa, CA

UPGRADE AT A GLANCE

Energy Savings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 14.1 % overall energy savings • 614.8 Therms saved • 2,577 kWh saved • 5.2 metric tons CO₂ emissions reduced
Rebate Amount	\$ 10,500
Measures Included	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attic insulation • Hot water recirculation controls • Kitchen and bathroom faucet aerators • Low flow showerheads • LED lighting in common area, garage and exterior
Other Benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improved safety upgrades on gas heating • Increased water efficiency

FRONTIER ENERGY:

- Conducts outreach to owners of existing multifamily properties
- Oversees contractor engagement
- Processes applications and rebates
- Conducts QA/QC, including on-site inspections
- Coordinates and engages with stakeholders, including the California Public Utilities Commission, statewide multifamily coordinating groups, regulatory compliance forums
- Builds the BayREN team’s knowledge of the regulatory landscape
- Integrates non-ratepayer funding sources to support the inclusion of new technologies and decarbonization strategies, like heat pump water heaters