## energynotes

### connected ••••• to energy savings

# Energy-smart choices can help you win the battle of the budget

o your household budget a favor by taking advantage of energy-saving rebates and services in 2013. To get your share of the savings, visit *sdge.com/ save-money* and check out the following programs and more.

Rebates for energy-efficient appliances and home improvements include:

- \$100 per qualifying natural gas furnace.
- \$100 per qualifying gas or electric water heater.

- \$50 per qualifying clothes washer.
- \$0.10 per square foot of wall insulation.
- \$200 per qualifying pool pump and motor.

**Appliance recycling:** That second fridge in the garage could be costing you up to 15% on your total energy bill. We'll pick it up for free and give you \$35 to let us recycle it.

Incentives up to \$4,500 are available through Energy Upgrade California<sup>™</sup>. It's an easier, more affordable way for you to take

### FEBRUARY/MARCH 2013

## People pick ECO favorite

With a vote tally topping 40,000, the Ocean Discovery Institute won the 2012 ECO Ambassador People's Choice Award and a \$25,000 grant from SDG&E. The award is part of a campaign by the San Diego River Park Foundation, CBS8 TV and SDG&E to build awareness of local nonprofits that are doing great things for the environment in our communities. Learn more at sdge.com/ecoaward.

a whole-house approach to improvements that can reduce your energy bills for years to come.

Don't have online access? Talk to one of our energy service specialists. Call our Energy Savings Center at 1-800-644-6133 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday. ■

**NOTE:** Energy-efficiency programs are funded by California utility customers and administered by SDG&E under the auspices of the California Public Utilities Commission.

If you're in the market for a new fridge let us recycle your old one. We'll pick it up and give you \$35. Learn more at **sdge.com/buyersguide**.

**>>>** For more info, visit us anytime at **sdge.com**.



### My Energy Survey gives you a customized action plan

Find out how you use energy in your home and learn the best ways to save. Check out the energy management tool in My Account and take the My Energy Survey. You'll receive:

- A customized report that shows where your energy dollars are going.
- An action plan with tips and ideas based on your answers to the survey questions.

Connect at sdge.com/survey for details. Or, get started by logging in to My Account at sdge.com/myaccount and clicking the "My Energy" tab and "How Does My Home Use Energy?"



## Reliability improved with new system for finding and fixing outages faster

Storms, wildfires, earthquakes and traffic accidents are just a few of the reasons why no electric service is 100% reliable. At such times, the first step to restoring your electric service as fast as possible is to find the problem as fast as possible.

#### Better data, better response

Our new outage management system helps us find and fix power outages faster than ever before. It helps electric grid operators pinpoint problems in real time by combining the capabilities of the following three innovative technologies.

- Smart meters send remote alerts back to a central control room within seconds of an outage occurring, so we can dispatch repair crews promptly to help restore power sooner. Previously, grid operators often had to rely on customer calls for outage reports, which could take time if the outage occurred late at night or in a remote location with few residents.
- Smart switches and circuit breakers can be remotely operated from a central control room to move power around problem areas and restore service to customers before dispatching crews.



Get up-to-date outage information and alerts with our free app for mobile devices. To download our app visit sdge.com/sdge-mobile-applications.

• A geographic information system provides highly detailed geographical images and technical data about the electric grid. Better mapping helps grid operators and repair crews do their jobs more efficiently, which helps keep the lights on for everyone.

The outage management system is one of more than 60 high-tech projects in our smart grid plan for enhancing reliability and benefiting the community.



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