## 2021 Quarterly Report Second Quarter

April 1, 2021 – June 30, 2021





Energy Efficiency Program

## Table of Contents

## Table of contents

Table of contents	2
Portfolio summary	3
Residential programs	5
Income-qualified programs	10
Business programs	13
Emerging technology and market transformation	18
Program operations	20
Stipulations	21
Impact	22
Awards and recognition	23



## Portfolio summary

Year-to-date results January 1, 2021-June 30, 2021

<b>4.72M</b>	<b>27.2%</b>	<b>17.37M</b>
Net savings	Percent of	Annual
to date	planned savings	savings goal
\$22.4M	<b>51%</b>	<b>\$44.5M</b>
Spend	Percent of	Annual
to date	planned spend	budget

## Key portfolio highlights

• IQ Offerings Through June 30, 2021, Nicor Gas, in collaboration with Community Action Agencies, was able to serve 137 single family homes. Additionally, through our contractor channel, we were able to serve 174 single-family homes and 1,397 multi-family units. We were also able to serve an additional 150 multi-family units through the Public Housing Authority Income Qualified offering.

## **Table of Contents**

- **Residential HES** The air sealing and insulation offering has seen significant participation within 2021. The Program has been able to serve over 700 homes and estimated to serve 1,400 homes total.
- Business Offerings The program is continuing to see public sector assessment and direct install interest, due to a multi-pronged public sector outreach approach, which will be fulfilled as COVID-19 restrictions are lifted. This outreach initiative has reached out to 257 public school districts, 316 municipalities, 68 park districts, and 36 County, State, Metropolitan, or Federal buildings. Nicor Gas is continuing further public sector outreach through our Marketing and Outreach team, to ensure the program is educating all markets within the public sector. Boiler tune ups and replacements are driving Public Sector savings for the program in PY2021.



## **Residential programs**

**5** Programs **2.79M** Net therm savings to date \$7.8M Spend to date

## **Key highlights**

- Within the HEER offering From April 1 through June 30, 2021, the Program has incentivized over 3,290 high efficiency furnaces and boilers and over 9,283 smart thermostats to our customers.
- Within the HES offering Through June 30, 2021, the Program has been able to provide over 4,400 customers with home energy assessments and over 450 virtual home assessments.
- Within the Multi-family offering Through June 30,2021, the Program has been able to serve over 2,700 multi-family units



## **Program overviews**

#### Home Energy Efficiency Rebates (HEER)

The objective of the Home Energy Efficiency Rebate ("HEER") Program is to obtain energy savings by overcoming market barriers to the purchase, installation and maintenance of high-efficiency natural gas space-heating equipment as well as other targeted measures in residential applications.

#### Home Energy Savings (HES)

The Home Energy Savings ("HES") program is a whole-house single-family weatherization program with the objective to obtain natural gas savings in existing single-family buildings by overcoming market barriers to the installation of energy efficiency measures. The HES program provides weatherization and shell improvement opportunities using standard, prescriptive and whole-house approaches. This offering consists of a home energy assessment (HEA) and air sealing and insulation (ASI) components.

#### Multi-family (MF)

The Multi-Family Program ("MF") addresses residential (living units) and commercial (communal areas, central plants) energy efficiency opportunities available in multi-family buildings. The program aims to overcome market barriers to the installation of energy efficiency measures in multi-family buildings by offering comprehensive assessments, technical assistance, and incentives. MF provides property owners with turnkey services to reduce energy and water use in residential living units, communal areas and in the building shell.

#### **Residential New Construction (RNC)**

The objective of the Residential New Construction Program ("RNC") is to obtain energy savings by increasing the energy efficiency of single-family and duplex new construction homes. The program provides participating new home builders and their verifier companies a financial incentive to either a) exceed state and local building code requirements regarding duct and air sealing, along with the installation of specific high-efficiency equipment, or b) install prescriptive high-efficiency equipment only.

#### **Energy Education and Outreach**

The energy education and outreach program is intended to enhance residential customers' understanding of energy usage in their homes and educate these customers.

## **Residential programs**

#### Home Energy Efficiency Rebates (HEER)

- Savings achieved to date 1.75M net therms
- From April 1 through June 30, 2021, the Program has incentivized over 3,290 high efficiency furnaces and boilers and over 9,283 smart thermostats to our customers.
- Through all of the Second Quarter, COVID-19 impacted the ability for trade allies to access customers' homes to perform installations. Nicor Gas is still offering rebates to customers for high efficiency furnaces, boilers and smart thermostats. COVID 19 impacts will likely persist into the Third Quarter.
- Nicor Gas offered a temporary rebate bonus of \$50 to residential customers who replace their existing furnace with a new high-efficiency 95% or 97% AFUE furnace until March 31, 2021. The rebate for a 95% AFUE furnace was raised from \$200 to \$250 and the rebate for a 97% AFUE furnace was raised from \$225 to \$275. Customers and Trade Allies have 90 days from installation to submit their paperwork. The Program has an online and paper channel for smart thermostats and an option for customers to go through the ComEd Marketplace where 8,294 smart thermostats were claimed in the Second Quarter.

#### Home Energy Savings (HES)

- Savings achieved to date 302K net therms
- Through June 30, 2021, the Program has been able to provide over 4,400 customers with home energy assessments and over 450 virtual home assessments.
- The air sealing and insulation offering has seen significant participation within 2021. The Program has been able to serve over 700 homes and is estimated to serve 1,400 total. We are also continuing to see a price per therm lower than anticipated.



#### Multi-family (MF)

- Savings achieved to date 133K net therms
- Through June 30,2021 the Program has been able to serve over 2,700 multi-family units.
- The prescriptive portion of MF has performed above expectations within 2021, fulfilling 65% of the planned incentive spend and 70% of our planned therm savings, year to date.
- The Central Plant Optimization Program part of MF continues to be an added success to the offering. The pipeline is almost completely full of projects to be completed within 2021.

#### **Residential New Construction (RNC)**

- Savings achieved to date 270K net therms
- In the Second Quarter, 571 homes were completed, for a YTD total of 1,345 completed homes, or 151% of the annual participation goal. Based on current forecasts, the program is tracking to finish PY2021 at ~247% of goal (~2,200 completed homes).
- The success of the program can be attributed to the simpler prescriptive program design which has gained traction, due to the ease in participating for the builders and verifiers.
- Key Program Changes The success of the program was leading to the incentive budget depleting at an accelerated rate. Therefore, builder incentive levels were reduced significantly as of May 1, to preserve the incentive budget into Q4 2021. This necessary pivot has not deterred participation.

#### Energy Education and Outreach Energy Saving Kits ("ESKs")

- Savings achieved to date 284K net therms
- In the Second Quarter, 2,205 water-saving kits and 5,173 weatherization kits were distributed to customers for a YTD total of 3,285 water-saving kits and 8,328 weatherization kits; this is 22% of the water-saving kits participation goal and 28% of the weatherization kits participation goal.
- Program Challenges While the program is currently short of expected participation levels, upcoming promotions via community events, bill inserts, customer emails, social media and our Home Energy Reports program is expected to create a significant increase in participation going forward.

In the Second Quarter, 2,205 watersaving kits and 5,173 weatherization kits were distributed to customers; this resulted in a total of 3,285 watersaving kits and 8,328 weatherization kits distributed through mid-year.

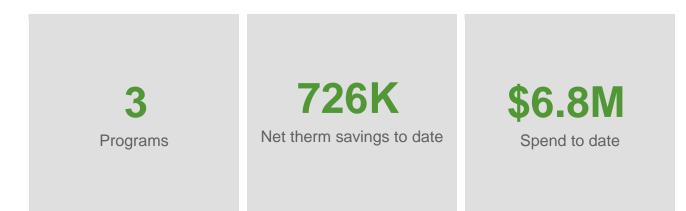
#### **Energy Education Kits ("EEKs")**

- Savings achieved to date 51K net therms
- In the Second Quarter, 3,914 kits were distributed to schools, for a YTD total of 6,519 kits distributed, which is 36% of the participation goal and tracking accurately to forecasted participation levels.

#### Behavior Energy Savings ("Behavior")

- Savings achieved to date N/A
- In the Second Quarter, the Behavior (Home Energy Reports) program distributed 188,692 paper reports and 1,216,378 email reports to program participants. This results in a mid-year total of 873,196 paper reports and 2,233,734 email reports distributed overall. The overall PY2021 open rate for emails is 25.3% and only 145 participants (0.025%) have opted out of the program.
- Program Challenges Program forecasted therm savings are still behind expectations, so as an additional therm-saving solution, the implementer will be sending monthly supplemental "educational" emails throughout the fall, that will reinforce and an enhance program messaging.

## Income-qualified programs



## Key highlights

- A large multi-family weatherization project in Chicago Heights will be completed in July 2021. The project will provide savings across 30 buildings.
- PHA The program served over 160 units so far in 2021.
- CAA Channel Through June 30, 2020, Nicor Gas, in collaboration with Community Action Agencies, was able to serve 137 single family homes.

## **Program overviews**

The objective of the Income Qualified Energy Efficiency ("IQ") program is to provide broad and deep energy efficiency opportunities to income-qualified customers living in single-family homes and multi-family buildings, and for the construction of new energy-efficient affordable housing. This program includes:

- Single Family and Multi-Family Weatherization and Retrofits
- PHA/Multi-Family Buildings
- Affordable Housing New Construction (AHNC)



## Income-qualified programs

#### Single Family/Multi-family Weatherization and Retrofits

- The IQ weatherization program provides comprehensive no-cost weatherization and other improvements to income-eligible customers.
- A large multi-family weatherization project in Chicago Heights will be completed in July 2021. The project will provide savings across 30 buildings.
- The program has been able to distribute 1,550 energy-saving kits to income-eligible customers.
- The Bloomington-Normal offering, joint with Ameren has served 37 customers and engaged new Community Based Organizations.
- The Contractor Channel has also been successful within the first part of 2021. It has served over 1,200 multi-family units and over 450 single family homes
- Savings achieved to date -283K net therms

#### **Public Housing Authority**

- The IQ PHA program provides broad and impactful energy efficiency opportunities to Public Housing Authorities to help the income-eligible households they serve.
- The program served over 160 units so far in 2021.
- The program continues to identify opportunities to serve PHA's and has projects scheduled for the remainder of the year.
- Savings achieved to date 2.3K net therms



## Income-qualified programs

#### Affordable Housing New Construction

- Savings achieved to date 440.7K net therms
- Through June 30, 2021, Nicor Gas, in collaboration with Community Action Agencies, was able to serve 137 single family homes. Additionally, through our contractor channel, we were able to serve 174 single-family homes and 1,397 multi-family units. We were also able to serve an additional 150 multi-family units through the Public Housing Authority Income Qualified offering.
- Due to COVID-19, all in-home assessments and weatherization for Single Family and Multi-Family Weatherization and Retrofits and PHA have stopped, as of March 12, but is scheduled to resume in July 2021 as COVID-19 restrictions are lifted.

The AHNC program is implementing a Remote Verification Process so that incentive payments for projects that are completed during COVID-19 aren't delayed. Nicor Gas may see minor project delays as we work with customers to complete the remote verification process, as it takes longer to compile and review all the information necessary to verify installation remotely.

• No key program changes have been implemented that impact delivery.

#### Affordable Housing New Construction (AHNC) Second Quarter Completed Projects

ТҮРЕ	SQ. FEET	ANNUAL GROSS THERM SAVINGS
Five-story, 72-unit, multi-family apt. building	51,725	4,532
Two-story townhome	3,975	722
Six (6) two-story apt. buildings and six (6) two-story townhomes	36,057	14,247



## **Business programs**

5 Programs **1.12M** Net therm savings to date



### Key highlights

- BEER Offering In Q2 of PY2021 the program completed 46 assessments, with 60 therm saving measures installed for an annual savings of 529 gross therms.
- Business Optimization Program (BOP) Joliet school district (SD) 86 is having 21 buildings participate in the BOP boiler tune-up offering and is excited to have their district boilers serviced at no cost.
- **Custom Offering** The outreach call campaigns to engage public sector customers yielded 31 new custom assessments in Q2 for public schools: 5 facility assessments, 11 opportunity assessments and 15 public sector assessments encompassing 55 buildings.

## **Program overviews**

#### **Business Energy Efficiency Rebates**

The Business Energy Efficiency Rebates ("BEER") program's goal is to produce natural gas energy savings in the business and public sectors by promoting the purchase and installation of energy efficiency measures such as: high-efficiency space heating, water heating, food service technologies, tune-ups and upgrades. This is

accomplished by providing the direct installation of free energy-saving products, completing free energy assessments of customers' facilities and providing tailored energy efficiency project recommendations.

#### **Business New Construction**

The objective of the Business New Construction ("BNC") Program is to obtain energy savings during the design and construction of new buildings, major renovations of existing buildings, and tenant buildouts in the commercial, public sector and industrial market. The Business New Construction offering provides education, financial incentives and technical assistance to help building owners and design teams exceed current energy codes.

#### **Custom Incentives**

The purpose of the Custom Incentives ("Custom") program is to assist medium-to-large commercial, multifamily, public sector and industrial customers in identifying and implementing cost-effective natural gas energy efficiency measures that are not otherwise addressed in Nicor Gas' BEER, MF or SB Programs. Participation is driven through the program's free energy assessments, which inform the customer on ways to be more efficient. These assessment recommendations can spill over into other commercial and industrial program participation. Additionally, the Custom program offers a Retro-Commissioning (RCx) offering, assisting participants with lowcost and no-cost tune-ups and adjustments to their operating systems, building controls, energy management systems and HVAC systems in existing buildings. The aim of the retro-commissioning offering is to optimize operation and improve facility efficiency by returning equipment to its intended operation or design specifications. The Custom program also includes a Combined Heat and Power (CHP) offering.

#### **Small Business Energy Savings**

The Small Business Program's ("SB") objective is to obtain long-term natural gas energy savings from small business gas customers, including public sector customers, with energy efficiency retrofits and financial incentives to influence the installation of highly efficient natural gas equipment.

#### **Strategic Energy Management**

The objective of the Strategic Energy Management ("SEM") program is to obtain long-term energy savings by focusing on improving and optimizing commercial, industrial and public-sector operations, processes and energy equipment.



## **Business programs**

#### **Business Energy Efficiency Rebates**

- Savings achieved to date 770.6K net therms
- The program is continuing to see public sector assessment and direct install interest, due to a multi-pronged public sector outreach approach, which will gain traction as COVID-19 restrictions are lifted. This outreach initiative has reached out to 257 public school districts, 316 municipalities, 68 park districts, and 36 County, State, Metropolitan, or Federal buildings. Nicor Gas is continuing further public sector outreach through our Marketing and Outreach team, to ensure the program is educating all markets within the public sector. Boiler tune ups and Replacements are driving Public Sector savings for the program in PY2021.
- In Q2 of PY2021 the program completed 46 assessments, with 60 therm saving measures installed for an annual savings of 529 gross therms. All assessments in Q2 were within the Public Sector with the City of Pontiac, City of Sterling, and the Village of Manhattan requesting assessments in all eligible facilities.
- The rebates for DCV were reduced from \$150/sensor to \$20/sensor, and Ozone Laundry from \$35/lb of capacity to \$10/lb of capacity to prevent a budget overspend. The original budget for Ozone Laundry for PY2021 was \$63,000, several large projects were submitted from one Trade Ally, surpassing that original budget quickly. In Q2, \$205,085 in Ozone Laundry projects were paid by the program, and we are working with trade allies to manage the budget throughout the duration of the program year.

- Business Optimization Program (BOP) a sub-program in BEER
  - The Outreach team has worked closely with program approved TAs to drive Public Sector participation in the BOP program. School districts are utilizing the program to tune up their Boilers at no additional costs to the districts. Public Sector Boiler Tune Up projects account for 50,861 therms, 40% of gross annual therm savings reported in Q2.
  - Precision Control Systems, Inc. was added as an approved TA to the Program for Q2. Since their addition, they have been actively working with Public School Districts, and have scheduled 84 boiler tune ups with 11 different districts for an estimated total savings of 192,459 gross annual therms.
  - The following Income Qualified customers are pleased to participate in the no-cost BOP program:
    - Joliet school district (SD) 86 is having 21 buildings participate in the BOP boiler tune-up offering and is excited to have their district boilers serviced at no cost.
    - Donovan High School SD 3 was excited to hear of the nocost program and replaced 103 commercial steam traps with this program.

#### **Custom Incentives**

- Savings achieved to date 271.3K net therms
- The program has a robust pipeline, which currently includes roughly 60 projects. The program has completed 28 projects (including two RCx projects through the ComEd/Nexant MOU) for a total of roughly 258,000 net therms. The program is continuing to see public sector interest, due to a multi-pronged public sector outreach approach to public schools and municipalities. The follow-up outreach cadence on assessments has increased, which has helped identify customers who will be acting on assessment recommendations. Outreach efforts to spark Retro-Commissioning (RCx) project interest have also increased. CHP activity continues to build. Three CHP Feasibility Study (FS) applications were received in the Second Quarter.
- The program has a robust pipeline of assessment which currently includes 105 assessments. The program focus has been to perform assessments early in the year. The program has performed site visits for 58 assessments including 28 PSA with multiple sites for each PSA or over 100 site visits for PSAs.
- The outreach call campaigns to engage public sector customers yielded 31 new custom assessments in Q2 for public schools: 5 facility assessments, 11 opportunity assessments and 15 public sector assessments encompassing 55 buildings.

#### **Small Business Energy Savings**

- Savings achieved to date 98.1K net therms
- In Q2, the program completed a total of 119 assessments with 562 DI measures installed for a total annual savings of 6,230 gross therms. Of the 119 assessments, 45 were completed within the Public Sector accounting for 31% of the gross annual therm savings from installs.
- Smaller School Districts are the most reliable source of Public Sector participation for the Small Business Program. In Q2 the Tri Valley, Pectonica, and East Maine SD 63 all participated in assessments at all eligible locations.
- With the rebate reduction for Dry Cleaner Steam traps in PY21, the main source of therm savings for the program this year is Furnace replacements, they account for 5,870 gross annual therms or 48% of savings in Q2.

#### **Business New Construction**

- Savings achieved to date 59.8K net therms
- Program Successes In the Second Quarter, eight projects completed, three of which were public sector projects

## **Business programs**

#### **Strategic Energy Management**

- No savings achieved in Q2. Savings to be achieved in Q3 and Q4.
- Two cohorts are underway in Q2. The Municipal Cohort conists of 11 customers (seven joint Nicor Gas/ComEd, two Nicor Gas only and two ComEd only); and the Alumni Cohort consists of 31 customers (15 joint Nicor Gas/ComEd, six Nicor Gas only and 10 ComEd only).
- SEM team continues to track COVID-19 impacts for customers in both cohorts. Public Sector customers started to see recovery from state mandated shutdowns and specific facility mitigation requirements. School districts transitioned to a hybrid model of virtual and in-person instruction, based on election by parents/students. Universities reduced in person operations by having students attend class virtually and allowing for staff elect to work in person or virtually. Park district facilities starting to open to public while maintaining CDC protocols. Correctional facilities showed little impact as they have had an increase in occupancy in Q2. SEM team remains confident that the Private Sector industrial customers will make up for the Municipal Cohort therm impacts and forecast reduction. The Alumni Cohort industrial customers continue to show little to no COVID-19 impacts and most have seen production volumes return to pre-pandemic levels, while some showing production increases. Municipal/Public Sector Cohort will be closing out in Q3 and claiming savings.
- Key Program Changes. None

Two cohorts are underway in Q2. The Municipal/Public Sector Cohort consists of 11 customers, and the Alumni Cohort consists of 31 customers.



## Emerging technology and market transformation Program overviews

#### ETP

The primary mission of the Nicor Gas Emerging Technology Program ("ETP") is to seek out new or unproven technologies that may be suitable for inclusion in the Nicor Gas Energy Efficiency Program and verify their natural gas savings through field tests and in-situ pilot demonstrations.

#### **Market transformation**

The MT program goal is to accelerate the adoption of energy efficient products and/or services to maximize energy savings for Nicor Gas' Energy Efficiency Program. The MT program focuses on specific MT initiatives targeting technologies and services. This includes recruiting partners to bring these technologies forward, development of the MT logic and framework, and implementing activities to support the adoption of the targeted technologies and services. The MT program also focuses on expanding MT activities locally in Illinois including at the SAG, regionally, and internationally to leverage cross cutting opportunities with other utilities and organizations pursuing MT.



## Emerging technology and market transformation

#### ETP

#### Successful Measures:

Nicor Gas completed and submitted 6 TRM workpapers during the Second Quarter. They are as follows:

- #1119 Venturi Steam Traps
- #1118 Low-E Interior Storm Windows
- #1085 Chemical Boiler Descaling
- #1137 Hydronic Heating Radiator Replacement
- #1139 Pipe Insulation; and
- #1150 Drain Water Heat Recovery

Furthermore, ETP launched a new pilot for a residential dryer sensor which is contactless, collects data remotely, and can be self-installed.

#### **Market Transformation**

Nicor Gas goals that were advanced in Q2 include:

- Develop Market Transformation best practices and methods
- Collaborative engagement, recruitment, and education with other utilities and stakeholders
- Utilize Market Transformation Savings Framework through SAG MT Working Group
- Leverage investment through North American MT Collaborative
- Creating a large North American market attractive to OEMs

#### MT Initiatives

- Gas heat pump water heater (GHPWH)
- Gas heat pump combination units
- Thin Triple Windows
- Low-E window and glaze systems
- Code compliance and advancement

## **Program operations**

#### **Budget Flexibility**

- **Budget Flexibility.** Any Program Administrator-initiated proposed budget shift of fifty percent (50%) for Programs with budgets under \$5 million or twenty percent (20%) for Programs with budgets over \$5 million shall be brought to the SAG when practicable, but no later than the next quarterly SAG meeting. It shall also be reported to the Commission in the quarterly reports.
- Actions. Nicor Gas has not exceeded the flexibility provisions authorized by the Commission in its Final Order.

#### Responses to evaluator recommendations (Refer to Index B)

Program Activities: Nicor Gas shall summarize the following:

- 1. Program activities
- 2. Implementation modifications
- 3. Additions or discontinuations of specific measures or programs.
- 4. Spending and savings amounts compared to the Plan filing
- 5. How the Company responds to past evaluators' recommendations and changes in the IL-TRM, NTG ratios, market research findings, and other relevant information the Company relies upon in making its decisions
- 6. Pilots completed and the results

#### Actions:

- 1. Please see the above section on the Second Quarter's highlights.
- 2. Please see the above section on the Second Quarter's highlights.
- 3. Please see Section C below and Appendix A for a discussion and list of new measures added to Nicor Gas' programs.
- 4. Spending and savings by program are shown in the attached Statewide Quarterly Report Template.
- 5. Please see Appendix B for actions taken in response to evaluators' recommendations.
- 6. Please see the above section on the Second Quarter's highlights.

#### New measure cost-effectiveness

**Cost Effectiveness of New Measures** (table by measure) Cost-effectiveness screening results for new measures.

• Actions. Actions taken in PY2020 in response to past evaluators' recommendations are shown in Appendix B.

**Cost-Ineffective Measures** (explanation of why they were included) Explain reasons for including new costineffective measures in programs.

• Actions. There are no new cost-ineffective measures included in programs.

## **Stipulations**

Weighted Average Measure Life

14.74 yrs

Stipulation: ≥11.91 years

Public Sector Spend as a % of Overall Portfolio Spend

## 9.8%

Stipulation: Minimum of 10%

Average Income-Qualified Spend to Date

## \$6.69 M

Stipulation: At least \$8.075M per year

% of IQ Projects in Multi-Family Housing Units

56%

Stipulation: At least 30% of units treated

#### **Supplier Diversity**

Stipulation: Nicor Gas shall maintain a diversity initiative as described in the EEP 2018-2021.

**Tier 1 Diverse Spend** 

\$12.5 M

Tier 2 Diverse Spend

\$488K

% of Total Eligible Spend

77.9%



## Impact

## 5 180M+ in incentives since 2011

- Residential and multi-family customers: energy-saving kits and home assessments
- Commercial and public sector customers: building system optimization, energy-saving projects
- Income-qualified customers: comprehensive energy upgrades at no cost
- Rebates for energy-efficient products and improvements

# first year therms saved since 2011

- Avoids more than 883K metric tons of CO2 emissions
- Equivalent to the CO2 emissions generated by 190K passenger vehicles over the course of a year

## 1.1M+

## customers in 643 communities have participated

- \$217 average incentive per customer
- Engaged 129K elementary school students in energy efficiency education

## **\$1.19B** Economic activity spurred since 2011

- 8,453 jobs supported since 2011
- \$43M spent with diverse suppliers
- \$505M wages supported since 2011



## Awards and recognition

Since launching in 2011, the Nicor Gas Energy Efficiency Program has received 19 awards from local, regional, national and international organizations. The program has been recognized for excellence in evaluation, innovation, marketing, program design and research.

#### **Marketing awards**

- 2021 Gold Stevie Award Awarded for the Operation Warm – Warm Homes, Warmer Hearts campaign
- 2020 Gold Stevie Award
   Awarded for the Unexpected Love Story campaign from the American Business Awards
- 2020 Inspiring Efficiency Marketing Award Awarded for the Unexpected Love Story campaign
- 2019 Gold Stevie Award for Women in Business Awarded for the Unexpected Love Story campaign in its marketing for women, created by a woman-led team.
- 2017 Inspiring Efficiency Marketing Award for Multicultural Marketing Strategy Awarded for multicultural marketing strategy including demographic research, event outreach, hyper-local print publication placements and digital ads.
- 2015 Inspiring Efficiency Marketing Award for Customer Journey Strategy Awarded for marketing & communications strategy including customer journey-mapping, overhauling communications with energySMART rebranding, and Customer Stories campaign
- 2015 Inspiring Efficiency Education Award
   Awarded for "What's in the Box" campaign focused on understanding how a furnace works
- 2014 Bronze Stevie Women in Business Award for Consumer Marketing Campaign of the Year Received bronze placement for energySMART "Customer Stories" campaign
- 2014 AESP Energy Award for Outstanding Achievement in Non-Residential Marketing Presented for "6 million therms" steam trap infographic campaign
- 2013 E Source Ad Awards Crowd Pleaser Award
   Presented for peer recognition for "6 million therms" steam trap infographic campaign
- 2013 Inspiring Efficiency Marketing Award
   Presented for Nicor Gas Energy Efficiency Program's "Summer Staycation" campaign
- 2013 Gold Stevie Award for Utility Marketing Campaign of the Year Presented for Nicor Gas Energy Efficiency Program's "Liberate" campaign

#### Other awards

- 2019 AESP Energy Award for Outstanding Achievement in Market Research and Evaluation Awarded for Nicor Gas's Market Research and Evaluation Initiatives through the Market Transformation program.
- 2018 ISTC Sustainability Award Awarded to the Emerging Technology Program for its efforts to reduce environmental impact and contribute to the growth of a more sustainable economy.

#### **Program awards**

- 2014 Inspiring Efficiency Impact Award for Business New Construction Program
  Presented jointly to Nicor Gas and ComEd for providing technical assistance on more than 200 business
  new construction and renovation projects
- 2013 ENERGY STAR Awards Special Recognition Received special recognition for active collaboration with other Illinois utilities to provide customer-centered energy efficiency solutions
- 2013 ACEEE Honorable Mention for the Economic Redevelopment Program Received Honorable Mention for leading program designs and practices
- 2013 ACEEE Exemplary Programs Award for the Home Energy Efficiency Rebate Program Received Exemplary status based on program performance during Summer Staycation marketing campaign
- 2013 ENERGY STAR Homes in Leadership Award Presented to outstanding partners who have made important contributions to energy-efficient construction and environmental protection
- 2013 ENERGY STAR Special Recognition Energy Efficiency Program Delivery Received special recognition for energy efficiency program delivery at the ENERGY STAR awards.

