



# Energy Edge

A NEWSLETTER FOR MEMPHIS LIGHT, GAS AND WATER DIVISION GENERAL POWER CUSTOMERS  
MARCH 2024

## Opportunity to provide input on MLGW’s 20-year strategic plan

MLGW wants to be ready for the future so we are developing a long-term strategic plan, called MLGW2045. Normally, we plan for shorter durations but there are many emerging technologies, market needs, weather changes and other opportunities that warrant a longer view.

As part of the process, MLGW will host at least 11 community workshops over the next few months to collect customer input. What community challenges are we facing over the next 20 years? What should be MLGW’s top priorities? Let your voice be heard.

Meetings will be held on the following dates from 6-7:30 p.m.

- March 5 Benjamin L. Hooks Central Library, 3030 Poplar Ave.
- March 7 Hickory Hill Community Center, 3910 Ridgeway Rd.
- March 18 Bartlett Performing Arts and Conference Center, 3663 Appling Rd.
- March 21 Orange Mound Community Center, 2572 Park Ave.
- March 26 Gaston Community Center, 1048 S. Third St.
- April 1 Whitehaven Community Center, 4318 Graceland Dr.
- April 2 Ed Rice Community Center, 2907 N. Watkins
- April 11 Raleigh Community Center, 3678 Powers Rd.
- April 16 Gaisman Community Center, 4221 Macon Rd.
- April 25 Bert Ferguson Community Center, 8505 Trinity Rd.
- April 30 Lucius E. & Elsie C. Burch Jr. Library, 501 Poplar View Pkwy

If you can’t attend, an online survey is available at <https://www.mlgw.com/2045> . Please share the dates and survey link with your employees who may wish to share residential perspectives.

## EnergyRight program modifications boost efficiency incentives and increase annual project cap per company

If your business or organization is considering electric efficiency improvements to reduce expenses, lower carbon footprint and make your local facility more competitive, now is the time to act. TVA recently amended the EnergyRight for Business & Industry program to help prioritize local facilities when you seek capital improvement project approval.

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### Important Contact Information

Business Solutions Center:  
*Monday-Friday*  
*8:00am-4:30pm Central*  
 Phone: 901-528-4270  
 Fax: 901-528-4547  
 E-mail: [mlgwbsc@mlgw.org](mailto:mlgwbsc@mlgw.org)

Emergency: 901-528-4465  
 Outage: 901-544-6500  
 Maintenance, Trouble and Gas  
 Pilot Safety: 901-820-7878

VIEW YOUR BILL ONLINE AT [www.mlgw.com](http://www.mlgw.com)

Applications submitted on and after February 8 for qualified equipment are eligible for the following incentives:

- **Indoor LED lighting:** \$0.10 per annual kWh reduced (just increased from \$0.08).
- **Outdoor LED lighting:** \$0.04 per annual kWh reduced.
- **Electric forklifts:** up to \$2,000 on purchase of new or refurbished forklifts and up to \$1,000 when leasing.
- **Refrigeration:** \$50 for electronically commutated motors (ECMs), \$200 for fan controllers and \$100-\$200 per linear foot for reach-in cases,
- **HVAC:** \$80 per ton for replacements; \$175 per ton for replacements, expansions and new installations; and \$250 per ton on variable refrigerant flow (VRF) and dual fuel heat pumps.
- **Variable speed drives (VSD):** \$100 per horsepower for installation of VSDs on existing HVAC equipment.
- **Thermal ice storage:** \$9 per ton hour for partial storage and \$11 per ton hour for full storage projects.
- **Custom projects:** \$0.12 per annual kWh reduced (just increased from \$0.10). This category covers most types of electric efficiency projects that are not included in other technology-based incentives.
- Lastly, the **program cap** has increased from \$1 million to \$3 million per company for each TVA fiscal year (October-September), enabling customers to implement larger projects covering multiple measures.

All measures require pre-approval before installation—except HVAC, where application must be submitted within 60 days of installation based on required invoice documentation. Projects must utilize members of TVA’s Preferred Partners Network. Incentives are based on available funding; as of February 19, TVA had 69% of funding available for this program year.

Ready to move forward? Find a Preferred Partners Network member at: <https://energyright.com/business-industry/find-a-contractor/>.

Know your facility needs improvements but not sure where to start? Request Expert Solutions by completing the webform at <https://energyright.com/business-industry/request-expert-solutions/>. Provide your contact information, site details, project description and number of responses you wish to receive and EnergyRight will coordinate with Preferred Partners Network members to generate a limited number of responses.

To learn all the EnergyRight for Business & Industry details, visit <https://energyright.com/business-industry/incentives/>, call (866) 233-0450 or email [TVABusinessIncentive@tva.gov](mailto:TVABusinessIncentive@tva.gov)

## Maximize your project’s return-on-investment with funding options and tax incentives

Most businesses and organizations have opportunities to improve their facilities’ energy efficiency, reduce operating costs and lower carbon emissions—but funding is often an obstacle. While **EnergyRight for Business & Industry** provides incentives, perhaps other resources are needed to garner executive support for your implementation plan.

Here is a quick list of loan programs, federal tax credits and other resources that may aid you in developing a project proposal for internal approval. (Keep in mind that MLGW is not a tax advisor or loan provider so you will need to fully understand each entity’s requirements to decide your eligibility.)

- **Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Loan from Pathway Lending**, a community development financial institution (CFDI) operating a revolving loan program created to help businesses and private non-profits in Tennessee finance eligible projects. Up to 100% financing is available for loans of \$20,000

to \$5 million. Loan rates currently are 4% for five years or 6% for 10 years. Learn more at: <https://pathwaylending.org/energy-efficiency/> or email [brandon.english@pathwaylending.org](mailto:brandon.english@pathwaylending.org)

- **Commercial Property Assessed Clean Energy and Resilience (C-PACER)** program, which provides upfront project funding in exchange for a voluntary assessment on City of Memphis property taxes. Eligible improvements include energy and water efficiency, EV charging, flood mitigation, solar generation and more. The program is managed by the Economic Development Growth Engine of Memphis and Shelby County (EDGE) and utilizes participating lending partners. Properties must be in Memphis. Proposed project costs must exceed \$1 million. Access the C-PACER guidebook at <https://edgemem.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/01/Program-Handbook-w-Attachments.pdf>
- **Energy-Efficient Commercial Buildings Tax Deduction (179D)**, a federal tax incentive for upgrading lighting, HVAC, water heating and building envelope. The tax credit was modified as part of the Inflation Reduction Act with final guidance expected in early 2024. In general, the value of the incentive varies depending on technology and amount of energy reduction. Find details at: [https://www.energystar.gov/about/federal\\_tax\\_credits/tax\\_credits\\_commercial\\_buildings](https://www.energystar.gov/about/federal_tax_credits/tax_credits_commercial_buildings)
- **Alternative Fuel Vehicle Refueling Property Tax Credit (C30)**, a federal tax incentive for installing vehicle refueling equipment, including EV charging. Eligible locations must be within designed low-income or non-urban census tracts as identified by the federal government. The credit for each item of property is generally the lesser of 6% (or 30% if certain prevailing wage and apprenticeship requirements are met) of the property's cost or \$100,000. The credit is available for property placed in service between December 31, 2022, and January 1, 2033. Incentives also are available to local governments, schools and other non-profit organizations through an "elective pay" mechanism created as part of the Inflation Reduction Act. Find details at: <https://www.anl.gov/esia/refueling-infrastructure-tax-credit>

The following websites track and provide information plus links to applicable federal and state resources: the Database of State Incentives for Renewables and Efficiency, [www.dsireusa.org](http://www.dsireusa.org), and EnergyStar, [www.energystar.gov](http://www.energystar.gov). IRS provides this website with links to relevant forms: <https://www.irs.gov/businesses/small-businesses-self-employed/business-tax-credits>

## TVA to sponsor 2024 Industrial Summit focused on sustainability solutions

"Powering Progress Together: Solutions for a Sustainable Tomorrow" is the theme of TVA's 2024 Industrial Summit, scheduled for April 16, from 9:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at the Embassy Suites Nashville Cool Springs in Franklin, TN.

Industrial energy managers, facility engineers and other energy decision-makers will learn about resources to help reach their energy goals through new incentives and programs offered in conjunction with local power companies like MLGW. The event is open to commercial and industrial customers of all sizes.

Space is limited, so visit <https://energyright.com/tvaindustrialsummit/> for more details and register today!

### Save energy and money with efficiency improvements at home too!

You spend all day handling energy management tasks at work—but don't forget there are incentives for residential improvements as well.

EnergyRight for Homes offers various residential energy efficiency incentives, as does the IRS. Find details at <https://energyright.com/residential/> and <https://www.irs.gov/credits-deductions/home-energy-tax-credits>

## Free compressed air system training classes scheduled

Industrial customers with compressed air systems of 100HP or greater are encouraged to register for one of two upcoming compressed air system training classes offered. Taught by certified instructors through the

Compressed Air Challenge, the two-part classes are available free through EnergyRight (\$400 value per attendee) and can help you achieve as much as 15% to 25% savings when best practices are implemented.

Each class covers two partial days of coursework and participants earn 0.7 continuing education units (CEUs). Dates and times are:

- April 16-17 (in person, after the TVA Industrial Summit). Course meets on Tuesday from 3:00-5:00 p.m. and Wednesday from 8:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Registrations will be accepted through April 2 at 12:00p.m. Central.
- July 9-10 (online). Course meets virtually from 9:00a.m. to 1:00p.m. on both Tuesday and Wednesday. Registrations will be accepted through July 2 at 12:00 p.m. Central.

Each course is limited to 30 participants, so register soon at <https://energyright.com/business-industry/compressed-air-training/>.

## Momentum Summit to offer in-depth view of vehicle electrification on May 9

Customers interested in electrifying their fleet are encouraged to attend the second annual Drive Electric Tennessee Momentum Summit on May 9 at Middle Tennessee State University in Murfreesboro. The conference will run from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., with a Ride & Drive opportunity immediately after.



The Momentum Summit will focus exclusively on transportation electrification efforts including workplace charging, economic and environmental benefits, and workforce/manufacturing efforts in the EV industry across Tennessee.

Find more details and register at <https://www.driveelectrictn.org/momentum-summit/>. There is a \$15 discount for early registration.

Drive Electric Tennessee (DET) is an initiative launched several years ago to develop a roadmap to reach 200,000 EVs registered in the state by 2028. DET engages state agencies, clean fuels coalitions, utilities (including MLGW and TVA), academia, EV and EV charging equipment manufacturers, EV owners and EV enthusiasts to create awareness, develop EV charging infrastructure and implement supporting policies. To learn more about DET, visit [www.driveelectrictn.org](http://www.driveelectrictn.org) and consider registering for the DET electronic newsletter to keep up with this rapidly changing market.

## MLGW IN THE COMMUNITY



MLGW presented United Way of the Mid-South with a check—giant in size and value—during the MLGW Board of Commissioners meeting on February 7. MLGW employees contributed \$682,141.60 during the annual United Way campaign.





MLGW has a long history of incorporating alternative fuel vehicles (AFVs) in our fleet and we had the opportunity to help educate the Memphis Fire Department during their February 16 safety class, taught by the National Fire Protection Association (instructor pictured in blue shirt) and sponsored by the Middle-West Tennessee Clean Fuels Coalition. In a classroom setting, first responders learned about AFV technologies, including ways to identify an AFV and where to locate the battery/fuel source, before adjourning to the parking lot to see first-hand on an MLGW electric vehicle, plug-in hybrid bucket truck and dual-fuel pickup truck. Other municipal fire departments will have the opportunity to receive AFV training as funding becomes available.

*Energy Edge* is published by the Customer Programs & Services team at Memphis Light, Gas and Water Division. Comments and distribution list changes may be e-mailed to: [mlgwbsc@mlgw.org](mailto:mlgwbsc@mlgw.org)