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RG&E AND consumer news

August 17, 1977



Program to Help Pay Energy Bills

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Staff Assistant-Consumer Affairs

Low income consumers may be eligible for a one-time grant to pay energy bills. Under a Special Crisis Intervention Program (SCIP), federal money is available to consumers in all counties in New York State with priority for Senior Citizens. Applications must be approved by August 31, 1977.

Consumers who meet the income limits will be eligible if:

...unpaid bills resulted in discontinuance of service for non-payment, or the threat of either its discontinuance or interruption in the delivery of heating fuel. These consumers may have a payment up to \$250 made to their utility or fuel dealer toward their outstanding bill.

...proof can be shown of dire financial need as a result of paying large energy bills. These consumers may receive a direct payment of \$50 and a payment up to \$200 to

the utility or fuel dealer as a credit against future bills.

If you think you are eligible you may apply at the nearest Unemployment Insurance Division of the State Labor Department. In Rochester the offices are located at 111 No. Clinton Avenue and in the Waring Road Plaza. Bring proof of your income from all sources during 1976, or the last 12 months, and copies of your utility or fuel bills from October 1, 1976 to the present. Or you can first get help in finding out if you are eligible by calling the Energy Hot Line at the Council on Aging, 454-3224. They may be able to help you apply if you are confined to your home for reasons such as illness.

Time is short! If you think you qualify, don't delay, the deadline for having your application approved is Wednesday, August 31, 1977.

Who Qualifies:

Income

If the total income of your household in 1976, or the last 12 months, is not greater than these amounts, you may be eligible. If you receive Aid to Families With Dependent Children or Home Relief, you are not eligible. If you receive Supplemental Security Income (SSI), you may be eligible.

Family Size	Non-Farm	Farm
1	\$3,713	\$3,188
2	4,913	4,200
3	6,113	5,213
4	7,313	6,225
5	8,513	7,238
6	9,713	8,250
(Each additional, add:	1,200	1,013)

Energy Bills

If there are three or more persons in your household and you paid \$500 or more in energy bills from October 1, 1976 to March 31, 1977, you may be eligible for a \$50 cash grant and up to \$200 against future bills. For one or two-person households you must have paid \$300 or more for bills incurred during this time in order to be eligible for this benefit.

You may pick up an application at any Library branch in the City and at most branches in the County.

You must apply at the Unemployment Insurance Division of the State Labor Department.

Energy House Designed for Rochester Weather

Energy House is a solar-powered home under construction on the Rochester Institute of Technology campus. The home is a joint effort of Rochester Institute of Technology, Rochester Gas & Electric, and Rochester Home Builders' Association and will be open for public viewing this fall.

Designing an energy-conserving home like

helps moderate our temperature by preventing the escape of warmer air.

By spring, though, the lake is a cold basin and is working to delay the warmth necessary for early spring vegetation.

This "lake effect" on our weather conditions plays a primary role in the design of Energy House.

Although the house's 39 solar-collectors are angled at 58° to catch the most

Rochester condition caused by the lake — snow squalls. Our frequent, gusty snow storms can chill a house and raise heating bills. Several design features of Energy House take squalls and our prevailing west-northwest winds into account.

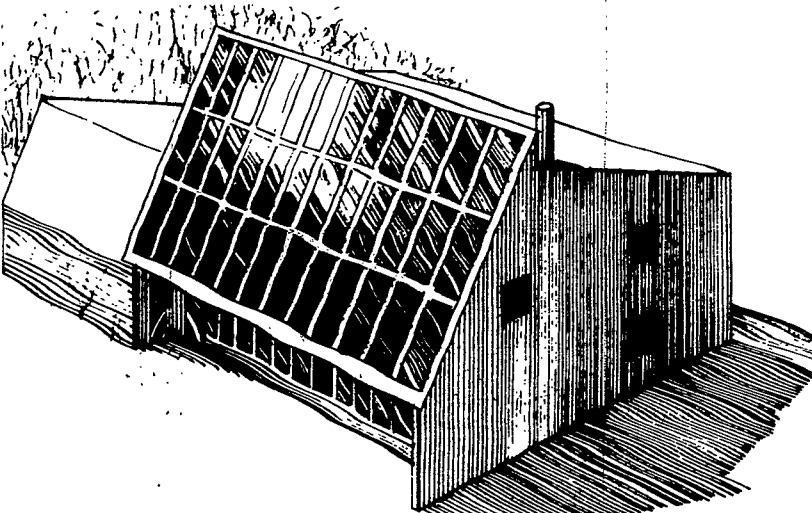
First, is the the way Energy House is situated on its site. A buffer of trees on a slope around the north, west and east sides of Energy House breaks the wind and serves as a natural barrier to wind effects. Landscaping, including earth berms nearer the house, will further deflect winds.

The salt-box shape of the house has a part in the strategy, too. A building like Energy House, approximately a cube, presents less exterior surface to the elements. It's easier for the wind to get over and around it, and this design minimizes heat losses.

Minimum window area on the north, west and east sides of the house and heavy insulation further seal Energy House from winds and temperature extremes.

Meanwhile, the south side of the house has a large window area to let heat and light in during the winter. An accompanying overhang is designed to prevent the sun's rays from entering the house in the summer.

These features of Energy House's design conserve energy by aligning construction advances with the particular set of circumstances in Rochester.



Energy House opening soon for public viewing.

Energy House on the RIT campus means getting on very familiar terms with Rochester weather conditions.

It means taking into account prevailing winds, the sun's angles, temperature ranges, and the so-called "lake effect."

Lake Ontario is a good place to begin any look at weather conditions. This large body of water stores up heat all summer and holds it well into the fall giving us our marvelous Indian summers and bountiful crops of apples and grapes. In late fall when cold Canadian air flows over the warmer lake water, clouds form a blanket over-head. This

winter sun possible, the heavy cloud cover of December will make it particularly tough that month to collect enough radiation to heat Energy House with solar energy alone. During these cloudy days, an auxiliary heat pump will boost the functioning solar system and, if necessary, a back-up electric resistance heater will be used. Nevertheless, for the entire heating season from October to April, Energy House is expected to rely on solar radiation for more than 50 percent of its space heating and domestic hot water needs.

Energy House is also set to handle another

Visit RG&E's Brookwood Science Information Center now open Sundays through Thursdays, 10 A.M. to 4 P.M., Lake Road, Ontario, N.Y.

FILL OUT AND RETURN THIS COUPON TO: CJ-52
 Dept. 34 Rochester Gas and Electric
 39 East Avenue, Rochester, N.Y. 14649
 546-2700

I would like more information on the following items

Name _____
 Address _____ Phone _____
 Town _____ Zip Code _____