The Zero Net Energy (ZNE) Companion Program will help guide your business to little or zero energy use in five phases. Our experienced energy advisors support you every step of the way, from developing an integrated building design, to construction and commissioning and through equipment monitoring and data collection. Let us help you achieve your high-performance energy goals today!

Program Features

The ZNE Companion Program is set up in five phases. Each phase guides you and the project team to complete deliverables on time so you can achieve your high-performance energy goals and earn program incentives. The project flowchart, below, provides you with an overview of each phase.

Zero Net Energy Companion Program Flowchart

Ready to start saving?
Call us at: 877-607-0737 or visit us at: ConsumersEnergy.com/pilots
Phase 1: Preliminary Design
The business owner and the design team prepare a preliminary energy model and hold a design charrette. Stakeholders are familiarized with the building and ZNE strategies while brainstorming a list of energy conservation measures (ECMs) to achieve a ZNE goal and the owner’s project requirements.

Phase 2: Advanced Design
The design team integrates the ECMs from Phase 1 into an energy modeling analysis to make the ZNE and cost-benefit goals of the project actionable. This design solution is integrated into the construction drawings and sub-metering plan.

Phase 3: Construction
Prior to construction, the team holds a kick-off meeting to guarantee the Phases 1 and 2 design elements will be installed, as specified. The commissioning agent performs functional testing of the building envelope and the installed systems, then creates a findings report. You will receive the first round of incentives during this phase.

Phase 4: Measurement
Construction is complete, the building is occupied and monitoring equipment is installed, per the sub-metering plan. A three-month equipment and data testing period is allowed before the 12-month verification phase begins.

Phase 5: Verification
A 12-month monitoring of your building’s energy use data occurs and provides the result of your ZNE goal. Providing the goal is achieved, you will receive the second round of incentives during this phase.

We Are Here to Help
The biggest challenge in reducing energy use in your business is knowing where to start. Consumers Energy is here to help. The Zero Net Energy (ZNE) energy efficiency team will guide you, providing a hassle-free process. Get started on your Zero Net Energy incentives today by visiting ConsumersEnergy.com/pilots or calling 877-607-0737.