

# Understanding Pipe insulation

## About the technology

Pipe insulation adds a protective covering to pipes and is used to limit heat gain or loss from surfaces operating at temperatures above or below the surrounding temperature. As insulation regulates the internal pipe temperature, it minimizes demand on heating systems and may provide significant lifetime energy savings at your facility.

Pipe insulation is made from a variety of materials, ranging from fiberglass, foam, foil, plastic and rock wool. Synthetics such as silica insulation are emerging in the industry as additional successful insulators.

### The importance of pipe insulation

Insulation reduces heat loss by protecting pipes from cooler ambient air temperatures. It also prevents the formation of condensation on pipework, acting as a protective barrier against the moisture build-up that contributes to many types of corrosion. As insulation prevents the formation of condensation, it also reduces heat loss and can raise temperatures inside the pipes by two to four degrees.<sup>1</sup> The proactive qualities of insulation allow for less heat loss in your piping system, saving your business energy and money.

### Pipe insulation works

Wrapping pipes can improve your equipment's performance, regulate temperature and increase overall energy efficiency. Pipe insulation can also:

- Reduce standby heat loss by 25-40 percent.<sup>2</sup>
- Reduce a commercial building's heating and cooling operating costs.
- Be a cost-effective investment. Properly designing, installing and maintaining an insulation system can yield an annual rate of return of over 80 percent.<sup>3</sup>

### Why pipe insulation?



#### Saves more energy

Reduces heat loss and regulates internal pipe temperature



#### Increases efficiency

Minimizes demand on heating systems



#### Longer lasting pipes

Prevents condensation on pipework

<sup>1,2</sup> Energywiseepa.org  
<sup>3</sup> energy.gov

Pipe insulation can reduce your green house gas emissions by up to 30 percent.<sup>4</sup>

<sup>4</sup>Energywiseepa.org

### How to participate in energySMART

Receiving rebates for energy efficiency improvements through energySMART is easy. Follow these three steps to apply:

#### 1. Verify your eligibility

- You must be a Nicor Gas commercial customer to participate.

#### 2. Select and install a qualifying product

- Install qualifying high-efficiency equipment between January 1, 2019 and December 31, 2019.

#### 3. Apply for your rebate

- Apply within 90 days of installation or by January 31, 2020, whichever comes first, to receive your rebate.
- Download a paper application or apply online by visiting [nicorgasrebates.com/apply](http://nicorgasrebates.com/apply). Once your application is approved, you will receive your rebate in approximately six to eight weeks.
- You can also work with one of our Contractor Circle members who can offer an instant discount on your invoice instead of applying for a rebate. Visit [nicorgasrebates.com/findacontractor](http://nicorgasrebates.com/findacontractor)



### Rebate eligibility requirements

- Fiberglass, foam, calcium silicate or other similar insulation types qualify.
- To qualify, indoor insulation must be at least 1" thick or have an R-value  $\geq 3.25$ , and outdoor insulation must be at least 2" thick or have an R-value of  $\geq 6.45$ . All insulation must be installed on bare piping
- Pipe insulation installed as part of a new facility construction is not eligible for a rebate.
- Rebates are paid per linear foot installed and will not exceed the total cost of the insulation installed.
- Insulation added to fittings will be measured in inches and included in the total number of linear feet installed.
- Total linear feet of insulation, including insulation on fittings, will be rounded to the nearest foot.

Additional requirements apply. View full requirements on the efficiency improvements application, which you can download at [nicorgasrebates.com/apply](http://nicorgasrebates.com/apply).

Visit [nicorgasrebates.com](http://nicorgasrebates.com) or call **877.886.4239** to learn more.