

FACT SHEET

DLC Lighting: What it is, how it works

DTE's Energy Efficiency Program for Business now uses DLC-listed lighting as the new standard for nearly every measure listed in the 2017 Catalog and Application. But what is DLC lighting — and why is it the new standard?

About DLC

DLC stands for the DesignLights Consortium™, a non-profit organization founded in 1996 and dedicated to accelerating the widespread adoption of high-performing, energy-efficient commercial lighting solutions by establishing product quality specifications.

Why we use DLC-listed measures

DTE established DLC-listed lights as the new standard because they meet higher energy efficiency standards than other equivalent lighting. Also, the DLC listing provides non-energy benefits, along with a reliable base from which we can calculate energy savings.

In addition, DLC-listed lighting has become an industry standard in the commercial/industrial market, although we continue to offer non-DLC measures at a reduced incentive for 2017.

How DLC works in our Program

DLC-listed LED lighting is the “standard” for all projects, which means you will receive a reduced incentive for non-DLC lighting in some categories. To apply for DLC incentives, you must:

1. Check the measure's eligibility by visiting the DLC website at: www.designlights.org.
2. Enter the DLC Product ID on your Application.
3. Attach specification sheets to your Application.

Using Non-DLC Lighting

If you're installing non-DLC-listed lighting:

- In a **Prescriptive Application** for which you're seeking DLC-level incentives or
- In a **Custom Application**

...you **must** submit a [Non-DLC Product Approval Form](#) along with other documentation (other conditions and exclusions apply; see the [Policies and Procedures Manual](#) for more information).

Contact Us

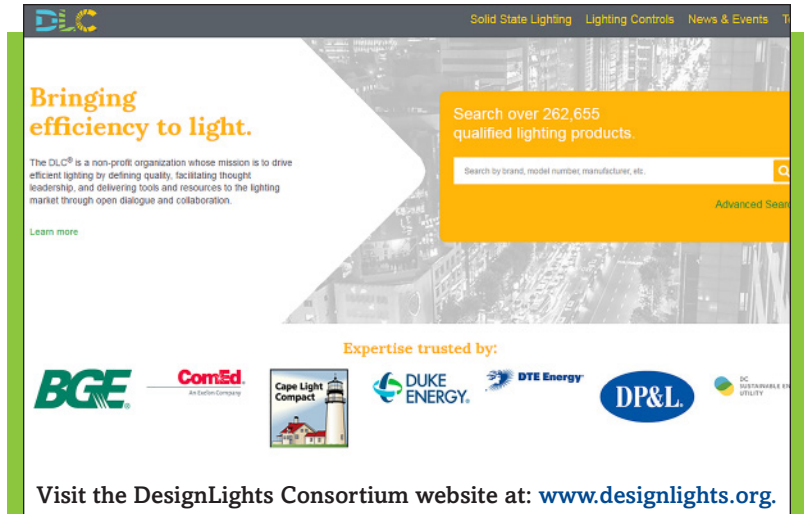
phone: **866.796.0512** (press option 3)

email: saveenergy@dteenergy.com

web: dteenergy.com/savenow

fax: **313.664.1950**

**Funds will be awarded on a first-come, first-served basis; program based on availability of funding and may end at any time; certain other conditions apply; contact office for details.*



The screenshot shows the DesignLights Consortium website. At the top, there's a navigation bar with links for 'Solid State Lighting', 'Lighting Controls', and 'News & Events'. The main content area features a large heading 'Bringing efficiency to light.' followed by a sub-heading 'The DLC® is a non-profit organization whose mission is to drive efficient lighting by defining quality, facilitating thought leadership, and delivering tools and resources to the lighting market through open dialogue and collaboration.' Below this is a search bar with the text 'Search over 262,655 qualified lighting products.' and a search input field. At the bottom of the screenshot, there's a section titled 'Expertise trusted by:' with logos for BGE, ComEd, Cape Light Compact, DUKE ENERGY, DTE Energy, and DP&L. A footer note says 'Visit the DesignLights Consortium website at: www.designlights.org'.

DLC vs. ENERGY STAR®

In today's marketplace, some energy-efficient light bulbs are identified as ENERGY STAR® products while others have the DLC label. Not surprisingly, buyers can get confused by the two — and wonder why some lights have the stamp of approval from one group but seemingly not the other. Here's why:

About ENERGY STAR®

ENERGY STAR® was launched by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in 1992, and uses labeling to help consumers save money and choose products that are safer for the environment.

Manufacturers can choose whether or not they want to participate and earn the ENERGY STAR® label. Products are tested in EPA-certified third-party laboratories.

About DLC®

The DesignLights Consortium (DLC) is a part of the Northeast Energy Efficiency Partnerships (NEEP), a regional group founded in 1996 that concentrates specifically on energy efficiency in the lighting industry.

The goal of the DLC is to promote energy efficient lighting in the building sector by influencing public policy and spreading strategies and education.

DLC and ENERGY STAR®

The main difference? ENERGY STAR® rates **residential** products and DLC rates **commercial** products — which means you will never see both labels on the same light bulb.

Because there is occasional crossover between commercial and residential lighting, ENERGY STAR® has the right to claim jurisdiction over a particular product. As a result, if ENERGY STAR® decides to cover a certain light category, the DLC must drop it — even if it was already rating it.