

Pipe and tank insulation

Rebates

Save money and energy by keeping the heat in



Uninsulated or poorly insulated pipes and tanks can represent a significant source of energy waste. Insulation helps save on energy costs and keeps steam pressure at the right level in your steam system. If using natural gas for hot water and steam production, take advantage of our rebates on pipe and tank insulation.

What could inadequately insulated pipes and tanks cost you?

Hot water and steam pipes and tanks are often made of metals or plastics—materials that have poor heat capacity. For every 100 feet of uninsulated pipe, you could be losing at least \$1,500¹ in energy costs annually due to heat loss (see table).

Adding insulation on the outside of steam and hot water pipes and tanks can provide a thermal barrier to significantly reduce heat loss. In fact, adding insulation to pipes and tanks can reduce heat loss by 50 per cent, which also reduces the amount of natural gas you need to heat water and create steam.

Estimated energy cost of uninsulated 100 PSI steam pipe¹

Diameter of steel pipe (inches)	Annual heat loss per 100 feet of pipe in gigajoules (GJ)	Estimated annual natural gas cost
1"	250 GJ	\$1,500
2"	425 GJ	\$2,500
4"	750 GJ	\$4,400
8"	1,355 GJ	\$8,000
12"	1,940 GJ	\$11,400

¹Engineering calculation using enthalpy tables based on an industrial boiler efficiency of 85 per cent producing 100 psi dry steam (per 100 feet of pipe) and an industrial natural gas rate of \$5/gigajoule (FortisBC Mainland service area).

Locating pipes and tanks that need insulation

A simple visual audit of your facility is one way to find most of the high-priority piping and tanks requiring insulation. Thermal imaging can also be used to determine the temperature along pipes or tanks and to help assess whether insulation is sufficient or is missing, damaged or insufficient.

What rebates are available?

Type	Rebate ²	Description
Pipe insulation	\$4 per linear foot	• for installing insulation on hot liquid, water, or steam pipes at least 1/2" in diameter
Tank insulation	\$6 per square foot	• for installing insulation on a tank containing a solution or liquid with a temperature between 49 and 77 °C (120 and 170 °F)
Tank insulation	\$6 to \$9 per square foot	• for installing insulation on a tank containing a solution or liquid with a temperature between 77 and 93 °C (170 and 200 °F)

Products must meet the following qualifying criteria:

- Insulation must be at least 1" thick.
- Insulation for pipes must be made of elastomeric foam rubber, polyethylene foam, UV-resistant polyethylene foam, mineral wool, fibreglass or rigid polyurethane foam.
- Tank insulation must be foam, mineral wool or fibreglass.
- Insulation must be installed on pipes and/or tanks that are connected to primarily natural gas-fired equipment for transferring heat to the solution or liquid. Up to a maximum of 25 per cent of the hot water and steam system can be multi-fuel or non-natural gas-fired. Systems not meeting this criteria may still be eligible, but they will be subject to additional analysis and require our pre-approval.

Replacement of damaged (existing) insulation and tanks with pre-existing insulation are not eligible for rebates. Other criteria and eligibility requirements apply. See the terms and conditions for more details.

How to apply

1. Review the terms and conditions at fortisbc.com/pipeandtank.
2. Complete the rebate application form at fortisbc.com/pipeandtank. Your rebate application must include a copy of a paid invoice showing product type, quantity, make, model number and total installed cost (before tax).
3. Email the completed and signed application form and scanned copies of supporting invoices to industrialrebates@fortisbc.com.
4. Once approved, you should receive your rebate in six to eight weeks.

Point-of-sale rebates may be available from participating industrial commercial partners. For more information, contact industrialrebates@fortisbc.com.

Questions?

To learn more about energy-efficiency rebates and incentives for industrial facilities, contact the FortisBC key account manager for your sector at fortisbc.com/KAM or email industrialrebates@fortisbc.com.

²Conditions apply.