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Texas firm goes live with Web tool to shop for energy rates

Baltimore Business Journal - 3:18 PM EDT Tuesday, August 14, 2007 by [Will Skowronski](#) Staff
A Dallas-based Web site that allows users to compare energy rates is now available in Maryland.

SaveOnEnergy.com posts electricity and natural gas prices for a given area so businesses and homeowners can compare rates for the best deal. The site became available to Maryland users Tuesday as part of a national expansion that started in June. It is now available in 11 states.

Brent Moore, CEO of SaveOnEnergy.com, said in a statement the site aims to connect customers with energy companies competing for their business in a deregulated market. The company continued to expand its territory from Texas after successful launches in other states, including New York and New Jersey, he said.

The Maryland legislature deregulated electricity in 1999 hoping to spur competition among energy companies. But, critics say competition has yet to develop as Baltimore Gas and Electric Co. still dominates the Maryland market. BGE's rates jumped 50 percent in June after switching to the open market. Most of its power is bought from parent company Constellation Energy Group, a relationship that is now under investigation by Maryland's Public Service Commission.

Over the next year, SaveOnEnergy.com will keep growing and become available to more states as well as Canada and possibly Europe, company officials said.

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