Case Study

Independence Community College
Independence, KS

PROJECT DESCRIPTION
Energy Savings Performance Contract

Challenge: One of the most critical issues for Independence Community College was the ongoing state support of its institutional operations. Declining state revenues and a slight reduction in enrollment were resulting in uncertainty in the budget dollars available for the requested renovations and required repairs of the facilities.

Due to stakeholders concerns in this area, the college decided to pursue an investment grade energy audit to determine if there were ways to decrease energy usage while still providing a comfortable learning environment across the campus.

ConEdison Solutions was engaged to assist the college with energy equipment improvements to all ten campus buildings. Several key items were identified as part of the Systems Portfolio and Master Plan developed for the community college with critical input from the Board of Trustees, the President, administrators, faculty, staff and students.

PROJECT SCOPE

Solution: Once the comprehensive audit was completed an Energy Saving Performance Contract (ESPC) was executed. The audit analysis allowed for the reallocation of budgeted funds in the college’s utility, operations and maintenance categories. The college received a grant from the Kansas Corporation Commission, under the guidance of the Facilities Conservation Improvement Program (FCIP), to help pay for half of the cost of the energy audit.

The ESPC project delivered annual energy savings of over $145,000 and allowed the college and ConEdison Solutions to make needed infrastructure improvements which included upgrading the lighting across the campus, the installation of new HVAC energy savings systems, and roof repairs.

The completed energy project not only enhanced the learning and living environment for the students and faculty, but the resulting utility costs savings paid for a significant portion of the financial needs required to implement the identified energy upgrades.

ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS
1,942 tons of harmful greenhouse gas emissions reduced annually

12.3 acres of forest preserved from deforestation

4,097 barrels of oil conserved

CAPITAL COSTS
$2,699,701

ANNUAL SAVINGS
Energy: $133,461
Non-Energy: $17,381
Utility Cost Reduction: 39%

Construction Start: August 2006

Construction End: July 2007

* Sources:
  - Leonardo Academy’s Cleaner & Greener™ Emissions
    Reduction Calculator
    http://www.cleanerandgreener.org/resources/
    emission_reductions.htm
  - U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Greenhouse
    Gas Equivalencies Calculator
    http://www.epa.gov/cleanenergy/energy-resources/
    calculator.html

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“The work accomplished by ConEdison Solutions, across our campus, through performance contracting afforded us a unique financial alternative that delivered on an improved learning and work environment for our students and staff.”

Greg Eytcheson
Chief of Information and Facilities