

Buchanan County

Energy Savings Performance Contract (ESPC)



Buchanan County wanted its facilities to become more energy-efficient in an effort to relieve pressure on its operating budgets. The county commission was also facing the challenge of maintaining aging infrastructure that required major capital improvements but without any available long-term capital budget to accomplish the necessary upgrades. Additionally, the county wanted to take full advantage of the state-administered Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant program along with utility rebates, energy savings, and low interest loans to mitigate the strain on its capital budget.

Through a partnership with RWE Clean Energy, the county established an aggressive energy efficiency plan and was awarded a significant Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant. Buchanan County received additional incentives from the local utility and gained access to 0% interest loans made possible by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA). Another result of the partnership with RWE Clean Energy was that the county also identified additional energy saving and capital improvement projects to incorporate in its 5 year capital budget plan. By formulating a comprehensive plan and improving the energy efficiency in its facilities, the county will help reduce its operating budget immediately and for future administrations.

ENERGY CONSERVATION MEASURES

Lighting and lighting controls

- High efficiency lighting
- LED exit signs
- Occupancy sensors

Heating and cooling

- Dedicated chiller installation
- Forced air heating to radiant tube heating conversion

Water

- Cooling tower sub-metering



PROJECT DATA

LOCATION

St. Joseph, MO

CONSTRUCTION DATES

October 2009 to November 2010

CAPITAL COSTS

\$905,975

ANNUAL SAVINGS

60,894

ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS

580 tons of harmful greenhouse gas emissions reduced annually

- Preserving 5.5 acres of forest from deforestation* or
- Conserving 1,349 barrels of oil*

*Sources:

- Leonardo Academy's Cleaner & GreenerSM Emissions Reduction Calculator: <http://www.cleanerandgreener.org/resources/pollutioncalculator.html>
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Greenhouse Gas Equivalencies Calculator: <http://www.epa.gov/cleanenergy/energy-resources/calculator.html>