

The Peoples Gas and North Shore Gas Natural Gas Savings Programs Commercial and Industrial Rebates

CASE STUDY

CUSTOMER

Presence Health, Chicago

PROJECTS

- Boiler efficiency improvements
- Gas optimization studies
- Steam traps
- Pipe insulation
- Demand-controlled ventilation

REBATE AMOUNT

\$1.25 million

ENERGY SAVINGS

800,000 therms



"Every dollar counts in the healthcare industry, and every dollar we invest into energy savings is money we can invest back into healthcare."

– Bob Hauptman, Presence Health

Presence Health Case Study



Customer Background

Presence Health is the largest Catholic health system in Illinois, with more than 150 locations throughout the state. Presence Health includes 12 hospitals, 27 long-term care and senior living facilities, physician offices, and many specialty health care facilities.

Project Description

The Peoples Gas Natural Gas Savings Program has been working with Presence Health at various locations since 2012. In an industry where budgets are tight, rebates make energy-efficient upgrades more achievable. "The rebates really provide the tipping point for doing a project now, as opposed to later," said Bob Hauptman, system vice president of construction and facility services for Presence Health.

Presence Health recently made a corporate commitment to energy efficiency through their "Becoming ONE" initiative. In January 2014, seven regional leaders of support services were assigned the goal of lowering energy costs through strategic investments in energy-saving projects, such as steam traps, pipe insulation, demand-controlled ventilation and boiler efficiency improvements. This new structure allows common energy efficiency projects to be implemented across the system with support from the Peoples Gas Natural Gas Savings Program staff and rebates.

The Gas Optimization Study Program was piloted at Presence Health's Saint Mary Campus. The study revealed immediate opportunities to save energy through temperature setbacks and optimization of Saint Mary's existing BAS system. In addition, the study identified a main boiler that was operating inefficiently due to excessive cycling and an improperly sized burner. This resulted in a capital project to right-size the burner, leading to a 20 percent increase in overall boiler efficiency. Currently, Presence Health is exploring additional energy-saving opportunities with the program.

Project Team

- Bob Hauptman, System Vice President, Construction and Facility Services, Presence Health
- Leon Dorsey, Account Executive, Peoples Gas
- Jim Hauser, Energy Advisor, Peoples Gas Natural Gas Savings Program

Impact

Presence Health has earned over \$1.25 million in rebates for efficiency projects at its Chicago locations, with an estimated annual savings exceeding 800,000 therms. That amounts to nearly \$500,000 in operational savings per year. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) estimates that every dollar a non-profit healthcare organization saves on energy is equivalent to generating \$20 in new revenue for hospitals. According to the EPA's formula, Presence Health has generated the equivalent of \$10 million in patient revenue through its energy efficiency upgrades.

"Using fewer resources is great for our bottom line and for the environment," said Hauptman. "This program is truly a win-win for our facilities. Every dollar counts in the healthcare industry, and every dollar we invest into energy savings is money we can invest back into healthcare."

The Peoples Gas and North Shore Gas Natural Gas Savings Programs team is available to help you capture similar savings at your business. Call 855-849-8928 today to schedule a facility assessment with one of our energy experts.

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