

EnergyUpdate

Local business finds energy-saving upgrades easy

If you think you've done everything you can to lower your energy bill, or that energy-saving improvements would be too complicated, time-consuming or expensive, consider the experience of one local business owner.

Bill Durney, CEO of Rancho Computer Networks, a business that tailors information technology services and solutions for companies, found energy savings for two facilities.

The first time, he came across an SDG&E® offer to install smart thermostats and other energy upgrades at no cost. "The ability to reduce my electric bill at no cost to me sounded good," he said. "An SDG&E authorized contractor came out, hooked up a thermostat, showed me how to use it, checked and tuned the air conditioner, and replaced some fluorescent bulbs," Durney recalled.

The whole process took an hour of his time, with minimal disruption to his operation, and was "absolutely" worth the energy savings.

Targets 15% to 20% reduced electricity use

With his business booming, Durney and his employees recently moved to a larger office space. Once again, he turned to SDG&E, this time with two requests:

- With a larger space, more employees and increased energy use, he wanted to be "greener" and also help control costs by reducing electricity use by 15% to 20%.
- Most of his employees are in the office working on computers all day, so he wanted the environment to be comfortable and the lighting more natural.

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▶ Get tips focused on your business

Look for energy-saving opportunities by business type at sdge.com/industryselect.

This online resource features the agribusiness, grocery, hospitality, manufacturing, property management, restaurant and retail segments. We're constantly adding new industries – biotech and breweries are next – so check back often. It's an easy way to find energy use facts, financial incentives, tips, testimonials, training and other industry-specific resources.

Reserve your spot: Energy Showcase June 10

You're invited to attend SDG&E's 11th annual Energy Showcase on Friday, June 10, at the San Diego Convention Center. Register online today for this free event at sdge.com/2016ES.

The exposition will be open from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. You'll find a wide variety of energy technologies, services and experts gathered together in one spot, including:

- **Dozens of displays** exhibiting state-of-the-art, energy-saving products and services for your business.
- **Electric vehicles** encompassing a range of model types, sizes and prices for you to compare.
- **A Power Your DriveSM** exhibit where you can learn about this new opportunity to provide electric vehicle charging stations for your employees or tenants.

New lighting installed at Rancho Computer Networks helped reduce energy costs and create a more comfortable work environment. It's one of the upgrades offered through SDG&E's Business Energy Solutions program. Learn more at sdge.com/bes.



▶▶▶ For more info, visit us anytime at sdge.com/business.

Know when to reduce your energy use

Check out tools and training at the Energy Innovation Center

Whether you pursue energy-efficiency projects professionally or as a part-time passion, you'll find plenty of specialized tools you can borrow at no cost from the Resource and Tool Lending Library at our Energy Innovation Center (EIC).

Visit sdge.com/eic/hold-event for a link to the library listings. Browse the online catalog for:

- More than 100 energy-measuring tools, such as an electronic balometer or blower door/duct blaster system.
- Books and DVDs to expand your knowledge about subjects such as energy-related technologies, renewable energy and sustainable construction.

To see if an item is in stock, email EICinfo@semprautilities.com, call **1-800-613-8970** or visit the EIC at 4760 Clairemont Mesa Blvd., San Diego, CA 92117. It's open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

We also offer seminars at the EIC, such as energy management strategies, technical education, lighting, HVAC systems and food service technologies. Visit sdge.com/training to learn more.



You can borrow specialized energy tools, books and DVDs free from our Energy Innovation Center.

These programs are funded by California utility customers and administered by SDG&E® under the auspices of the California Public Utilities Commission. Programs may be modified or terminated without prior notice and are provided to qualified customers on a first-come, first-served basis until program funds are no longer available. Eligibility requirements apply. Customers who choose to participate in these programs are not obligated to purchase any goods or services offered by contractors, vendors or any other third party. SDG&E does not endorse, qualify, or guarantee the work of any contractor, vendor or other third party and is not responsible for any goods or services selected or purchased by customers. Actual savings may vary and will depend on various factors, including geographic location, weather conditions, equipment installed, usage rates and similar factors.

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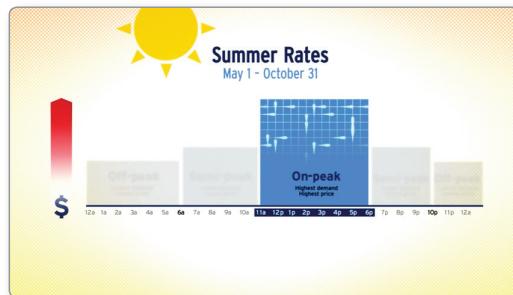
Summer electric rates are now in effect so it's important to understand what actions you can take – and when – to help manage your energy costs.

First, if you're signed up for a demand-response program, remember these programs offer various incentives and benefits for lowering electricity use on high energy use event days. To learn more about these programs, visit sdge.com/DR.

To receive event notifications, make sure your contact information is up-to-date for your account(s). Log in to My Account at sdge.com/myaccount and click the "Alerts and Subscriptions" tab, then the link to "Alerts."

Second, check your pricing plan. Electricity costs vary by time of day and season. The cost per kilowatt-hour is highest during the weekday summertime on-peak hours of 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. (from May 1 to Oct. 31). You pay lower prices for electricity used during semi- and off-peak times.

The more you can reduce or shift electricity use away from on-peak



Our new video explains why it's important to understand when and how you use energy. Watch it at sdge.com/Whenergy.

hours, the better you can control energy costs.

This is especially true if you're on a Time of Use Plus plan, which includes extra charges for electricity used from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Reduce Your UseSM days or Critical Peak Pricing Event days. These are days when the regional demand for electricity is extraordinarily high or energy supplies are too low.

If you can't reduce energy use from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. on event days, and you're on a Time of Use Plus plan, call our Business Contact Center at **1-800-336-7343** to find out about other plan options. An energy service specialist is available Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. to assist you.

Local business finds energy-saving upgrades easy *continued*

He qualified for **SDG&E's Business Energy Solutions program** and an SDG&E authorized contractor started the process with an on-site, no-cost energy audit. During the audit, he learned that a selection of about 175 energy-saving products could be installed at no cost or a discount. He also learned about the availability of zero-interest, on-bill financing to cover the project co-payment.

"The new program looks like it covers more fixtures and equipment,"

observed Durney, who enthusiastically recommends the program to other businesses. "It would be great if more businesses were aware that the no/low costs are real. It helps them, it helps SDG&E, it helps the environment and it reduces overall use."

To learn more about SDG&E's Business Energy Solutions program, view the product catalog or complete the interest form, visit sdge.com/bes.

