

SOLANA
BEACH
SCHOOL
DISTRICT

## ABOUT ON-BILL FINANCING

The On-Bill Financing (OBF) Program helps qualified businesses pay for energy-efficient improvements through their SDG&E® bill. OBF works with the SDG&E rebate and incentive programs to provide 0% financing for eligible businesses.

The project cost, per meter, per business (after reduced rebates or incentives are applied) must be a minimum of \$5,000. The maximum loan amount is \$50,000 and the maximum length of a loan is five years.

Businesses who elect to participate in OBF will have their rebate/incentive reduced by 10% in exchange for the loan. This allows SDG&E to provide more rebates to businesses interested in making energy-efficient upgrades.

# Solana Beach School District teaches conservation by example

The Solana Beach School District serves more than 2,700 students at its six elementary schools. The District's mission is, in part, "to ensure a stable and vibrant learning environment rigorous in academic standards, rich in diversity, sensitive to individual needs, and committed to developing compassionate children who are confident, competent, and creative learners."

One important educational component is raising environmental awareness among students, parents, and staff. Toward that end, Solana Beach School District Superintendent Leslie Fausset embarked on a "Go Green" effort across all the District's schools and administrative offices.

## High achievement is part of the lesson plan

The Solana Beach School District has long been associated with high-achieving students. Over the past several years, the District has actively sought out and implemented measures to augment its record of academic accomplishment with similar gains in saving energy and water.

Some of the upgrades were relatively simple, like retrofitting more than 4,000 light fixtures, putting lights and sprinkler systems on timers, and implementing a

district-wide recycling program.

Other approaches used advanced technology to better control energy use, like the computer-controlled energy management system (EMS) that started being used in the 1990s and is continually upgraded as new, more efficient operating systems and controls become available. This system constantly monitors and controls the heating, ventilation, and lighting needs in all the buildings on each campus.

In 2005, the District took advantage of SDG&E's Savings By Design program, which helped to integrate green building principles into the construction of its newest and largest school, Solana Pacific Elementary. This innovative, environmentally friendly campus made extensive use of natural daylight for illumination, while minimizing the effects of direct sunlight that would drive up the cost of cooling. The results were higher energy-efficiency standards, lower operating costs, and an award for classroom design from the state of California.

Continued district-wide enhancements include ongoing upgrades to the EMS and retrofitting additional light fixtures.





#### **Getting Started**

Here's some information about other SDG&E programs that can help you save on your energy costs:

#### Small Business Super Saver

This program offers cash rebates to small businesses who install energy-efficient upgrades to their facilities. Currently, rebates are available for many types of energy improvements, from lighting to refrigeration equipment.

### Express Efficiency Program

Businesses can earn cash rebates for energy-efficiency improvements to commercial, industrial or agricultural facilities. Currently, rebates are available for many types of energy improvements, from lighting to refrigeration equipment.

For a complete list and detailed information on all SDG&E rebate and incentive programs visit sdge.com/esc, or e-mail EIC@semprautilities.com.

#### Saving energy: A+; Saving money: A+

"Solana Beach School District went green the smart way," says Matt Greenbergs, SDG&E Account Executive. "They offset the cost of installing high-efficiency lighting through 0% financing from SDG&E – retrofits that'll save more than \$113,700 per year across six sites, so they'll pay for themselves in just two years. After that, the savings will continue to accrue."

In addition, the newer lighting systems provide brighter, more-even illumination.

"We're very proud of what our school district has achieved," says Bill Banning, Assistant Superintendent of Administrative

Services. "Yes, we have limited budgets, but our commitment to the environment and our kids is boundless. These lighting retrofits just make sense – they save money and create a better environment for our kids to learn and our staff to teach."

Moving forward, Solana Beach School District is incorporating the latest green building principles into the planning and design of its seventh school, located in the Pacific Highlands Ranch community.

It's a winning combination: better lighting, better energy efficiency, and better cost-efficiency, through partnerships and programs from SDG&E.





To see how the utility's energy-saving programs and services can work for your business, contact your SDG&E account executive, call 1-800-411-7343 or visit sdge.com/esc.



Serving you today.
Planning for tomorrow.®