



Energy Efficiency Program

Commercial

Education

Healthcare

Hospitality

Industrial/Manufacturing

Business Custom Incentive Program

SEE THE PROGRAM IN ACTION: BOILER BURNERS

NORTHWEST COMMUNITY HOSPITAL

Rebate Amount: \$78,370.80

Annual Energy Savings: 83,520 therms

Payback Period: 5 years

Project Cost: \$261,236

Project Description: Two boiler burner replacements

COMPANY PROFILE

NORTHWEST COMMUNITY HOSPITAL (NCH) is a 496 bed medical center that primarily serves the northwest suburbs of Chicago. Each year the hospital cares for 28,000 inpatients and 352,000 outpatients, is home to 3,300 newborn deliveries, and performs 18,000 inpatient and outpatient surgical procedures. The hospital campus includes a Central Energy Plant with three boilers and two steam generators capable of producing 4MW of electrical power for the hospital.

- Project Location: Arlington Heights, Illinois
- Replaced two boiler burners with more efficient burners

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- Tom Johnson, NCH

PROJECT TEAM

Tom Johnson, Director of Plant Operations, NCH

Mike Bayless, Chief Engineer, NCH

Bob Orsi, Project Manager, Edwards Engineering

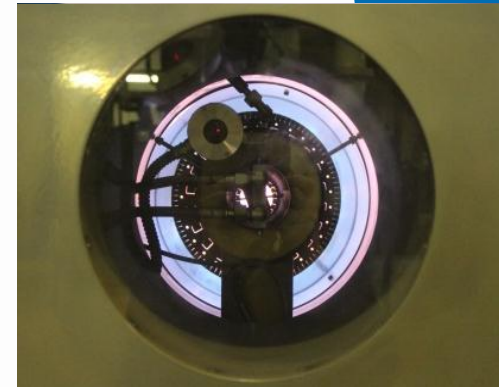


THE PROJECT

The burners on NCH's existing 600 HP Scotch Marine boilers were in good condition and still had 15 years of useful service life. However, Tom Johnson, NCH's Director of Plant Operations, knew that new generation burners on the boilers would dramatically reduce the hospital's natural gas consumption. Johnson found out about the Nicor Gas Business Custom Incentive Program through NCH's Nicor Gas Business Customer Support representative and thought it might be the ticket to financing the burner replacement project.

HOW NCH MADE IT HAPPEN

When Johnson found out about the Nicor Gas Energy Efficiency Program, he took his project idea to Edwards Engineering, one of the hospital's mechanical vendors. Edwards Engineering calculated that the more efficient burners would provide 6.5% to 10.5% in energy savings each month. When Johnson presented the project to NCH senior leadership, they recognized that it would help NCH cut costs without reducing patient services. "Energy efficiency projects are competing with things like MRI machines and CT scanners for funding, but in the long run energy savings allow us to expedite capital for medical equipment and benefits our patients," said Johnson.



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– Tom Johnson, NCH

THE EXPERIENCE

The Nicor Gas Business Custom Incentive Program process went very well for NCH. The incentive they received made the project a lot more attractive from a financial analysis perspective, and the energy savings from the efficiency upgrade reduces the hospital's operating expenses, directing more resources toward patient care. "By my calculations, every dollar I save on energy is equivalent to generating \$25 in new business for the hospital," Johnson said.



Did you know that over half of an average hospital's energy use goes to space and water heating, typically natural gas-powered processes?*

Learn more about saving energy and reducing your operating expenses at www.NicorGasRebates.com or by calling 877-886-4239.

* US DOE

