

How Can Schools Save Energy and Build a Better Future?

Pursuing initiatives to lower electricity use does more than help Viewpoint School reduce energy and costs. It also helps the next generation understand how they can help build a better future, putting today's and tomorrow's energy into making a difference.

"Energy conservation and sustainability are part of the school's fabric," said Interim Head of School Paul Rosenbaum. "Our environmental classes and programs help make students more aware of the world and their role in it."

Building Upgrades: \$10,800 in Incentives

In the last several years, Viewpoint — a nonprofit, K-12 school located in Calabasas — has utilized energy efficiency (EE) and demand response (DR) offerings that provide significant savings and further help students see the opportunity for greater efficiency and sustainability.

Incentives and bill credits earned through these programs "have helped us save costs that go back into our facilities and educational programs — including an outdoor environmental classroom, environmental Advanced Placement courses and more for all grade levels," Rosenbaum said. "We're always willing to support any new program that helps reduce energy and costs, and SCE notifies us about new programs to help us lower our energy costs."

He added, "We've gone through a lot of growth, and if these energy management programs weren't available, I'm not sure we'd be able to grow."

In the EE arena, Viewpoint participated in Savings By Design (SBD), a program that encourages high-performance, non-residential building design and construction. SBD offers cash incentives and technical assistance to help maximize energy performance in new and upgraded building projects.

Through this program, Viewpoint performed building improvements with efficient glazing measures, upgraded HVAC systems with modulating economizers and variable frequency drives (VFDs) to bring in fresh air, occupancy sensors and more energy-efficient lighting. For this project alone, the school received nearly \$10,800 in incentives and saved nearly 87,000 kilowatt-hours.

Peak-Demand Reduction: \$6,600 in Bill Credits

With the Summer Advantage Incentive (SAI), a demand response program also known as Critical Peak Pricing (CPP), you can avoid paying higher prices by reducing electricity use during program events called when energy use hits its peak — in turn relieving stress on the electricity grid and the environment. You may also benefit from lower energy bills from SAI's reduced monthly on-peak demand charges throughout the summer season.

During SAI events, Viewpoint sheds or shifts load (to off-peak periods before 2 p.m. and after 6 p.m. during the summer months), primarily by reducing HVAC use. From 2011 through 2013, Viewpoint earned bill credits of \$6,600 through SAI participation.



Viewpoint School staff review data on the building automation system that connects the HVAC system to the newest campus buildings. This allows the school to save energy and money by allowing automatic control of electricity use based on classroom and other facility activities.

Rosenbaum noted that even on days without SAI events, Viewpoint still aims to save energy by reducing air conditioning levels in rooms not in use. The school currently utilizes a building automation system that connects its HVAC system to its newest buildings — allowing automatic control of electricity use based on classroom and other facility activities — with plans to continue linking more buildings in the coming years.

In addition, Viewpoint practices water conservation with high-efficiency toilets and sensor-activated faucets, he said. Furthermore, under a Master Plan approved by the City of Calabasas, Viewpoint plans to have any new campus facilities — including a new building in 2015 with space for students to design, engineer and build projects — constructed to meet the U.S. Green Building Council's LEED (Leadership in Energy & Environmental Design) Silver Level. It's another continuation of Viewpoint's efforts to pursue energy efficiency and sustainability, and to minimize its carbon footprint.

“Leading and Teaching By Example”

As Rosenbaum noted, “Viewpoint has always been a big steward of the environment, and energy and water conservation have always been a big part of that. We are leading and teaching by example.”

As a business owner or manager, you have a wide selection of savings opportunities, and SCE can deliver energy management programs and solutions with incentives and bill credits to go with them. Our energy management solutions offer a range of efficiency options, developed with your industry in mind, to help your business maximize savings over the long term through the permanent and temporary reduction of electricity usage.

To learn more about SCE energy management solutions, ways to reduce your energy usage, and manage your energy costs, visit sce.com/business or call your SCE Account Manager.

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Switch to a More Energy-Efficient Business – With Smart Lighting Controls

Lighting can account for 20% to 50% of electricity consumption¹ for a typical small to medium-size business. So, whether lights are needlessly kept on overnight or left to illuminate unoccupied rooms, wasteful use of lighting can have a huge impact on your energy bills. To eliminate this waste, most energy codes require some way to automatically shut off lights when not in use, either based on a schedule or occupancy.

Part of our Energy Conservation Series, **Switch to a More Energy-Efficient Business – With Smart Lighting Controls**, shows how these devices can help businesses adhere to today's stricter codes most effectively, and reduce energy costs significantly.

Included in this wide-ranging piece is a discussion on the concept of “daylighting,” or leveraging the most abundant (and free) source of lighting available – the sun – to lower light usage and keep costs down. This topical article further outlines the many types of lighting controls that are available, including occupancy sensors, dimmable ballasts, bi-level switches and timers, along with daylight sensors or photocells.

The benefits of installing lighting controls go beyond energy savings – which could range upward of 50%. Also included is improved productivity by providing employees with ideal lighting conditions in which to work, plus reduced maintenance through extended lamp replacement intervals. Visit [here](#) for the full article.

1. U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA), SBA.gov

Register Today: SCE's Annual Water Conference, Sept. 9-10

SCE invites you to attend our **free** 22nd Annual Water Conference – an engaging two-day event focusing on California's current water situation and efforts underway to advance energy, water and state policy.

The event will take place Sept. 9-10 at our Energy Education Center – Irwindale.

Guest speakers will include representatives from Southern California's largest municipal water provider and industry experts specializing in programs, policies and technologies in the water-energy nexus. Whether you're a general manager, energy manager/analyst, operator or engineer, this event can benefit you.

Workshops and classes will include, but not be limited to:

- All Things Renewable
- Drought Mitigation: Rehabilitation of Wells and Pumps
- Time-of-Use Rates & Demand Response Refresher for Water Customers
- Grant Writing for Water and Wastewater Systems
- Water Loss Workshop Part 1: From Water Audit to Intervention Strategy
- Water Loss Workshop Part 2: Hands-On Water Loss Control Activities

The conference also will provide an opportunity to hear from area businesses that have successfully implemented energy efficiency, demand response and other technologies to improve their bottom line.

Though the event is free, space is limited, so review the **event sessions and classes** and **register** today. We look forward to seeing you there and demonstrating new and creative ways to save energy, water and the environment.