



Bumble Bee Seafoods



Betty Mendoza,
Bumble Bee
Seafoods

Energy Management at Bumble Bee: Demand Bidding Helps Trim the Fat

"As our industry globalizes, we're up against some tough competition," says Sheri R. Glazebrook, Vice President and General Manager of Bumble Bee Seafoods in Santa Fe Springs. "Every savings we can achieve makes a difference in our favor, so we're constantly seeking good ideas. The process starts with asking questions, even about the procedures that we assume are working adequately well. The Demand Bidding Program (DBP) from Southern California Edison (SCE) involves a learning curve, but we're glad we asked about it, and we're enjoying the payback." "Believe it or not, we're actually having fun with this program," agrees Betty M. Mendoza, Bumble Bee's on-site energy manager. "We hope our returns will be even greater in the coming years."

Tasty dishes on tables all over America get their start at Bumble Bee's canning facility in Santa Fe Springs. The hundred-year-old brand is one of the most respected names in seafood, and Bumble Bee's 150,000-square foot plant is the last of its kind in the continental U.S. Built in the 1960's, the plant offers both challenges and opportunities for its energy managers.

Demand Bidding for Energy Savings

Forty thousand cases of canned tuna ship four days per week from the plant, and the safety and quality of every serving are stringently monitored at every stage from arrival to canning, cooking and labeling. Trimming energy costs is a way for Bumble Bee to save money while upholding its trusted name.

"We use a combination of time-of-use and interruptible rates for our power needs, and we've worked hard to understand exactly how much electricity is drawn by each item of equipment," says Mendoza. "For example, we know what we need to maintain the optimal temperature in our 15,000-square foot freezer. This knowledge gives us flexibility to use DBP, SCE's Internet-based bidding program that offers us credit for voluntarily reducing power during called events. We participate at times when we know we can power down our compressor. In the past three months, SCE has credited us a total of about \$5,000 for our participation in demand bidding events, and we think that's a good start. That's why we're asking about other opportunities to save."

Estimated Savings by Managing Energy

- *Location:* Santa Fe Springs, CA
- *Industry:* Manufacturing/Food
- *SCE Programs Utilized:* Demand Bidding Program
- *Results:* \$5,000 in bill credits in three months; 12,223 in kWh savings

ESTIMATED SAVINGS

12,223 kWh

