

Contract Details

Contract Type:

Energy Savings Performance Contract;
Guaranteed Energy Savings;
Renewable Energy; Solar

Facility Size:

788,808 square feet

Energy Project Size:

\$10.7 million

Energy Savings:

\$583,266

Summary

Intent of the Energy Savings

Performance Contract Project (ESPC) was to initiate energy conservation measures at the District's 13 schools and 6 administration buildings.

The initial audit was completed in 90 days. Since initial construction in May 2008, four additional change orders have been added increasing the project from the initial \$5.1 million to the current \$10.7 million.



Customer Benefits

The efficiencies generated by the 10 energy conservation measures reduce Douglas County School District's (DCSD's) overall gas, electricity, and operation and maintenance costs. The projects can then be funded entirely out of the savings.

The 12-month construction period in the cash flow analysis of the Energy Conservation Installment Purchase Agreement was estimated to yield ~\$167,000 in savings from which Installment Purchase Agreement payments of ~\$105,000 would be made, netting the District ~\$62,000.

Utility reports from Fiscal Year 2007-2008 (prior to the initiation of the Energy Savings Performance Contract [ESPC]) for gas, electric, and disposal total \$2,085,017, whereas utility reports from Fiscal Year 2008-2009 (the period of construction of the ESPC) for gas, electric, and disposal total \$1,882,942 – an annual decrease of expenditures equating to ~\$202,000. This was more than sufficient for the first year's payment of the Installment Purchase Agreement. These savings are in excess of the original estimate.

Accolades

"We are pleased to say that this choice was a significant benefit to our District, and has been one of the best run projects in the history of DCSD. As Chief Financial Officer for DCSD, this ESPC project has allowed our district to realize many improvements that would have been otherwise impossible to achieve. Additionally, working with Ameresco has allowed me to see how construction projects for a public entity can be accomplished smoothly, on time, on budget, and with minimal hassles when the correct contractor is chosen. I would gladly work with Ameresco on future projects, knowing the care, professionalism and responsibility Ameresco would bring to the project."

–Holly Luna,
Chief Financial Officer



About Douglas County School District, Nevada

Douglas County School District serves the communities of Gardnerville, Minden, and South Lake Tahoe, Nevada in the beautiful Carson Valley and Lake Tahoe regions. Nestled among the Sierra Nevada Mountains and the high desert sagebrush, our seven elementary schools, three middle schools, and three high schools provide over 7,000 students with a high quality education based upon District Competency Objectives and Nevada Academic Performance Standards.

Learn more at www.dcsd.k12.nv.us/

About Ameresco

Ameresco, Inc. is one of the leading global energy services providers. We deliver long-term customer value, environmental stewardship, and sustainability through energy efficiency services, alternative energy solutions, supply management, and innovative facility renewal strategies. The company has over 650 employees in regional offices throughout North America. Ameresco, Inc. has constructed billions in energy projects throughout the world.

Learn more at www.ameresco.com



Services Provided

This five phase \$10.7 million project in Nevada, included 13 schools and 6 administration buildings.

The original audit for this fast-track project was completed in 90 days! Intent of the ESPC was to initiate energy conservation measures DCSD, including lighting upgrades, HVAC solutions, transformer upgrades, computer power management, solar rooftop system at Douglas High School, building automated system upgrades, and upgrades to gymnasiums.

Additionally, 72 percent of the direct costs were awarded to contractors and vendors in the surrounding community keeping the majority of spending in the local economy. Ameresco prides itself in maintaining an average of 55 percent spending in the local communities where our projects reside.

For the 2.8-kilowatt grid-tie photovoltaic system at Douglas High School, a web-based kiosk was set up in the library to measure the productivity of the photovoltaic system. Students can view and interactively learn how their school is saving energy.

In addition to our performance contracting work, the DCSD retained Ameresco to act as their project manager on the George Whittell High School gymnasium expansion project.

