



Energy Management Success Story



Energy Management for Warehousing at Glacier Cold Storage: Cool Savings

Glacier Cold Storage in Huntington Park stores and transports millions of pounds of frozen meat and poultry products in any given week, serving restaurants and institutional food services throughout greater Los Angeles. Supervising an operation that covers over 90,000 square feet of refrigerated space, Vice President Rick McCutcheon handles all kinds of challenges to stay “center of the plate” for Glacier’s customers. High on the company’s menu for success is energy management.

Glacier’s most recent win came from shifting a daily battery charging operation away from on-peak hours. The change makes Glacier better able to both keep energy costs down and please its clients.

Off-Peak Hours, Top Energy Savings

Rick McCutcheon explains, “we use battery-powered electric vehicles and lifters to move the freight in our facility. We used to charge them in the middle of the day. An idea from Southern California Edison (SCE) alerted us to a better option—off-peak charging, when time-of-use (TOU) electricity rates are lower.

“At first, I wasn’t sure we were going to be able to avoid the on-peak electrical rates and still maintain our effectiveness and service,” McCutcheon says, “but after evaluating what we learned from SCE about the possible savings, we decided to make the shift. We consume about 18% of our electricity on lift equipment. By shifting load to off-peak hours, we cut that expense by about 40%, even after buying additional batteries. Now, we actually lock out our battery-chargers during the peak electrical rates, noon to six. Our consumption is the same, but we’ve trimmed our electricity costs dramatically. The savings have offset the cost of the new batteries, and they’ll continue for as long as we’re in business.”

Electricity Savings: Trimming the Fat

Glacier is an industry leader in energy-management tactics. “For years we’ve been load-shifting away from on-peak hours to take advantage of comparative rates,” Rick says. “We had questions at first—would turning equipment off affect our operational quality or the service we deliver to customers? We found that when we

Savings by Managing Energy:

- **40% savings** on energy for charging electric vehicles during off-peak hours on an **SCE time-of-use (TOU) rate schedule**
- **Load-shifting for savings at off-peak hours** in insulated spaces

Rick McCutcheon, Vice President,
Glacier Cold Storage





"It's vital to our competitiveness to make energy-management improvements as soon and as effectively as we can."

Rick McCutcheon, Vice President, Glacier Cold Storage



shut off some equipment and evaluated the insulation and temperatures of our storage areas, we didn't compromise the effectiveness of those areas. We were one of the first companies to do that. Now it's common practice. SCE helped us understand the idea back when we opened this facility. We've been doing that ever since, every day."

Making Savings Standard Operating Procedure

"Our early struggle with electricity costs was a blessing in disguise, because it motivated us to find a better way," Rick McCutcheon says. "Some managers don't realize how much of their profit and loss statement is related to energy costs. Some companies assume, 'Hey, that's just my power bill,' and they look for savings in other areas of their operation while they miss opportunities to save money by managing their energy costs. For Glacier it's not 'just my power bill.' Sound energy management is vital to our competitiveness, so we make improvements as quickly and as effectively as we can."

Like Glacier Cold Storage, you can save money on electricity:

- **Shift electricity usage to off-peak hours on a time-of-use rate schedule**, to take advantage of lower energy rates.
- **Participate in a demand response program such as SCE's Demand Bidding Program** in which customers with demands greater than 200 kW can receive a credit on their bill for reducing power when needed.
- **Use SCE's Express Efficiency Program** or other energy efficiency programs for cash incentives on energy-saving hardware and equipment.
- **Use the SCE Summer Discount Plan** to optimize your energy usage and cut your electricity costs.
- **Use SCE's Savings By Design Program** for project assistance and financial incentives for the design and construction of energy-efficient buildings and installation of high-efficiency.
- **Find out how SCE Demand Response Programs** can reward you for reducing your electricity usage.

For More Information

Southern California Edison offers a range of programs such as cash incentives, energy surveys, and payment options to help you better manage your electricity costs. To learn more, please contact your SCE account representative, call (800) 990-7788, or visit us at www.sce.com.

Learn more about how to save energy and save money:

SCE Energy Management Classes

www.sce.com/ctac
800-336-2822;
www.sce.com/agtac
800-772-4822

Express Efficiency

www.sce.com/express
800-736-4777

Standard Performance Contract

www.sce.com/spc
800-736-4777

This case study is provided for your general information and is not intended as a recommendation or endorsement of any particular product or company. Funding for this case study is provided by California utility customers and administered by SCE under the auspices of the California Public Utilities Commission.