



## Energy Management Success Story



### Taco Bell Cooks with Electricity and Saves While Pleasing Customers

#### *Grill-to-Order Dry Line Cuts Electricity Costs Dramatically and Improves Quality*

The problem was water: in any restaurant kitchen, it's an expensive and sometimes hazardous way to heat food. At Taco Bell, a typical kitchen built around steam tables was using about \$7,500 in electricity per year and 125 gallons of hot water per day. Its move to a dry electric Grill-to-Order (GTO) operation with help from Southern California Edison's (SCE) Express Efficiency program has **cut Taco Bell's power costs for the production lines by nearly two-thirds, eliminated hot water in the process, and most importantly, pleased customers with better-tasting food.**

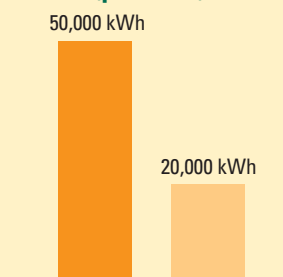
#### **Energy Savings of 100 kWh Every Day**

"Eliminating waste, improving productivity, increasing efficiency... they're all ongoing efforts here at Taco Bell, and ultimately they're all focused on configuring the perfect kitchen to deliver the best possible food to our customers at the best price," says Rick Winfree, Senior Director of Engineering. "Water was a problem because it was not only inefficient, but it also created a lot of wasted heat in the work space. We have a long collaboration with SCE and their Foodservice Technology Center to improve our processes.

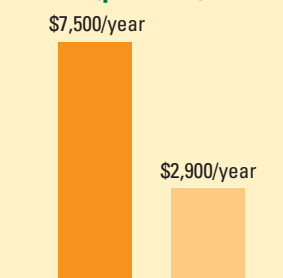
We expected improvements in safety, cleanliness, and comfort in the kitchen when we tested an all-electric Grill-to-Order dry line, but we were all surprised at the unexpected energy savings that resulted. The steam lines in a standard SCE territory restaurant cost more than \$7,400 in electrical and used almost 50,000 kWh per year.

**The GTO lines' electrical costs were less than \$3,000 and used less than 20,000 kWh per year. In a couple of the restaurants we tested in, we've saved as much as \$5,900 a year in electricity costs per store."**

**Standard Production Lines annual kWh v. Dry-Line Grill-to-Order annual kWh (per store)**



**Using 15 cents/kWh, Standard Production Line v. Dry-Line Grill-to-Order (per store)**



#### Savings by Managing Energy:

- 100+ kWh savings per day per restaurant, with rebates available through SCE's Express Efficiency Program





**“We’re able to demonstrate the energy savings and the long-term value of this, and the incentives from SCE make it irresistible. The franchisees see it as winning all around—greener business, more savings, and better product.”**

Rick Winfree, Senior Director of Engineering, Taco Bell Corp.



“Going electric was an even bigger improvement than we anticipated,” Rick affirms. “It has permitted us to expand our product line and add new items. We’re using electricity more efficiently, so we can add equipment without adding overhead, and remove equipment we don’t need. **The kitchens are cleaner and more comfortable to work in, and the AC load on the typical restaurant is less.** Most important, customers report liking the food even better. Now every new production line we make is electric, and we’re working 24/7 retrofitting all our older ones—more than 5,600 restaurants.”

“The savings is about 100 kWh per day per store; we save about 36,000 kWh per year based on our 16-hour days,” Rick says. “Our franchisees need to invest in this retrofit, and if they own multiple restaurants, they’re naturally going to ask tough questions. **We’re able to demonstrate the energy savings and the long-term value of this, and the incentives from SCE make it irresistible.** The franchisees see it as winning all around—greener business, more savings, and better product.”

### Like Taco Bell, You Can Save Money on Electricity

- **SCE’s Express Efficiency Program** at [www.sce.com/express](http://www.sce.com/express) (800) 736-4777 offers SCE business customers generous cash rebates toward the purchase and installation of qualified equipment that improves their facility’s energy efficiency.
- **SCE’s Technical Assistance & Technology Incentives (TA&TI) Program** at [www.sce.com/drp](http://www.sce.com/drp) provides technical assistance in the form of demand response site assessments, usually at no charge to eligible commercial and industrial customers, and incentives for the installation of qualifying demand response technology.
- **Find out how the Standard Performance Contract Program** at [www.sce.com/spc](http://www.sce.com/spc) can give you cash incentives for energy-saving retrofits of existing equipment or systems.
- Leverage long-term savings from your hardware improvements using **SCE Demand Response Programs**, which reward you for reducing your electricity usage. Learn more at [www.sce.com/drp](http://www.sce.com/drp) or call (866) 334-7827.

### 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](http://www.sce.com).

Learn more about how to save energy and save money:

**SCE Energy Management Classes**  
[www.sce.com/ctac](http://www.sce.com/ctac) (800) 336-2822  
[www.sce.com/agtac](http://www.sce.com/agtac) (800) 772-4822

**SCE’s Retro-Commissioning Program**  
(800) 942-0263

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