School district adds to bright future with LED upgrade project.

The Newport-Mesa Unified School District (Newport-Mesa USD) prides itself on helping students develop into bright, quality adults who will make lasting contributions to society. The district is now pursuing a bright, quality future in another way: by using one of our newest energy-efficiency programs to receive incentives for light-emitting diode (LED) T8 lamps that will provide long-term energy savings, along with environmental benefits.

Our Midstream Point of Purchase (MPOP) program, launched in 2016, provides our non-residential customers with a point of purchase incentive on qualifying LED products purchased through an SCE-approved electrical distributor. Customers receive an instant rebate when they purchase the products — meaning there is no need to complete an application or wait for a rebate check. We provide the incentive amount to the distributor, which automatically reduces the cost of the product at the time of purchase.

“Quick and Easy” energy-saving lighting option

Newport-Mesa USD is in the process of replacing linear fluorescent T8 lamps with 4-foot LED T8 UL Type A tubes. Through the summer of 2017, the school district had re-lamped one middle school, five elementary schools, and the commons area of one high school — with a total of approximately 6,000 LED lamps — and plans to upgrade its remaining fluorescent T8 tubes to LEDs at the rest of its 32 schools, and its other sites, in the near future.

District Energy Manager Kent Ramseyer said that Newport-Mesa USD (which serves portions of Orange County) tested the LED technology first at its district office before deciding to expand its use. He noted, “After the quality and brightness of the new LED lights were verified in our offices and conference room, we made the decision to replace all 4-foot T8 florescent lamps with LED ‘plug-n-play’ tubes at TeWinkle Middle School over spring break. After receiving

RESULTS

- Estimated annual deemed energy savings of approximately 107,000 kWh, and demand reduction of approximately 40 kW, for LED tube upgrades completed through the summer of 2017
- Point of purchase buy-down cost savings of more than $24,000 for new LED tubes purchased through the summer of 2017

SCE Programs Utilized
- Midstream Point of Purchase (MPOP) Program
positive feedback from site administration and zero complaints from faculty and staff, we deemed the project a success.”

And so, the district began the additional rollout of the LED installations. Ramseyer added, “This program offers a quick and easy way to install high-quality/long-lasting energy-efficient lighting throughout your schools, allowing your maintenance crews to focus on other more important tasks than constantly changing out florescent lamps, saving both labor and energy costs at the same time.”

Over 107,000 kWh in annual energy savings

Newport-Mesa USD receives a $4 point of purchase incentive for each LED tube (which retail at about $7 apiece) it buys from a qualified distributor participating in the MPOP program. This resulted in a savings of approximately $24,000 on its first 6,000 fixtures purchased. Based on the deemed energy savings of this LED tube type, installation of the first 6,000 fixtures equates to energy savings of approximately 107,000 kWh annually and approximately 40 kW in demand reduction.

“‘We’re always looking for ways to increase our energy efficiency, as long as it makes economic sense to do so,” Ramseyer said. “With the recent installation of additional air conditioning units in six schools, we realized that we had to quickly identify a means to counteract this increase in electrical load. The impetus was to reduce the possibility of being placed on higher SCE tariffs, and/or pay increased demand charge fees. Installing more energy-efficient lighting is an obvious choice in quickly making this load reduction.”

Ramseyer credited Newport-Mesa USD's SCE Account Manager for bringing the MPOP program to his attention so soon after its implementation, and for continuing to inform him of the latest energy-saving offerings to consider for the district.

“We hope for the continued funding of programs like these,” he said, “as they are vital for school districts looking to redirect more monies back into the classroom, where they belong” — supporting the bright, quality leaders of tomorrow.

For more information on the MPOP program, visit sceonlineapp.com/MidstreamPOP.aspx

As a business owner or manager, you have a wide selection of savings opportunities, and we 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.