



Newhall County Water District

Water District Stays Current With SCE Programs to Save Energy and Money

Water and power normally don't mix. But for the Newhall County Water District (NCWD), working together with SCE on both water and energy saving programs helps the district lower its utility bills, while also decreasing energy usage during peak-demand periods and reducing the possibility of power outages.

NCWD General Manager Stephen Cole said, "Electricity is typically the second-highest line item on most water agencies' budgets." For NCWD, it must move water and pump it out of the ground to meet the needs of the 44,400 residents served by the district, located in the Santa Clarita Valley north of Los Angeles.

He added, "We're implementing programs with SCE to help us achieve our goal of being as energy efficient as we can be. These programs work."

Auto-DR Technology Incentives of \$198,085

One SCE program is Automated Demand Response (Auto-DR), which provided approximately \$198,085 in incentives to NCWD to install an upgraded SCADA (Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition) system to allow initiation of

automatic (versus manual) load reduction during demand response (DR) events.

When a DR event is called, NCWD reduces energy consumption, which relieves stress on the electricity grid, lowers energy costs, and helps the environment, in turn providing the district with bill credits to help offset monthly energy charges. NCWD participates in DR through the Aggregator Managed Portfolio Program (AMP), developed by authorized third parties for our customers.

"Auto-DR allows NCWD to pre-determine specific, 'energy-hungry' facilities that can be safely shut down when necessary without impacting water service or public safety," Cole said. "By participating in this program, NCWD is doing its part to protect our community from power outages."

NCWD: Full Control of the Process

For a DR event, NCWD receives a wireless signal to automatically shut down the district's pre-determined facilities, such as pumps and lift stations. However, the district maintains full control of the process and can override any potential shutdown if it deems water service would be negatively impacted.

Project Overview

SCE Programs Utilized:

- Aggregator Managed Portfolio Program (AMP, Third-Party Demand Response)
- Automated Demand Response Technology Incentives
- Pump Test Services and Upgrades

Results:

Projected annual savings of 235,600 kWh and \$16,076

An incentive of more than \$198,085 for technology and energy-efficient equipment



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General Manager
Newhall County Water District

Auto-DR provides other benefits for NCWD. Director of Operations Michael Alvord said, “We previously had to manually turn off equipment during a DR event. The upgraded SCADA system streamlines our approach. All water districts are looking to improve upon technology and become more efficient. We can leverage SCE’s programs to offset some of the capital dollars we were going to need to expend for upgrades. Plus, we can improve operational efficiency.”

Projected Annual Pump Plant Savings of 235,600 kWh

NCWD also improves operational efficiency through SCE’s Pump Test Services, which evaluates pump plant conditions to identify improvements that can bring sites back to optimal design and efficiency, while potentially lowering operating costs. This offering can also be used to prioritize budgets for pump plant repairs and replacements.

In 2014, as part of its ongoing use of this program, NCWD received an incentive of approximately \$23,300 to upgrade one

of its largest pumps, resulting in a projected savings of 235,600 kilowatt-hours and \$16,076.28 annually.

“This program has a direct tie to capital outlay of resources. It gives us debt-free money,” said Alvord.

As a next step, in 2015 NCWD is working with SCE to begin utilizing a third-party pilot program funded by SCE known as the WISE (Water Infrastructure and System Efficiency) initiative. This program will include three evaluation phases: 1) pump upgrades, 2) pump optimizations, and 3) system optimizations (such as for SCADA). The results of these analyses may open the door to other energy- and money-saving projects.

“A Two-Way Street”

With its ongoing energy management initiatives, NCWD continues to collaborate with SCE to find ways that make a significant water and energy savings mix.

General Manager Cole said, “SCE and our Account Manager are available and encouraging in their approach in bringing us new programs we weren’t aware of that possibly could work for us. It’s a true two-way street. We’re pushing forward with programs that make sense for the district. We have accomplished great things.”

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



To learn more about SCE energy management solutions, ways to reduce your energy usage, and manage your energy costs, visit sce.com/business or call your SCE Account Manager.

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