

Client Study: Green River College Foundation

College Foundation Gains Control of Their Utility Budget

Strategic budget and operations approach brings control to expenses seen as “unmanageable”

The Challenge

“We knew we were wasting energy and utilities,” said George Frasier, Executive Director of the Green River College Foundation and owner/operator of the college’s student housing. “Every year we budgeted more for utilities and our equipment was getting older. We knew we had to cut costs, but where to start? We weren’t energy experts and didn’t feel comfortable risking our very limited funds without professional guidance.”

The Solution

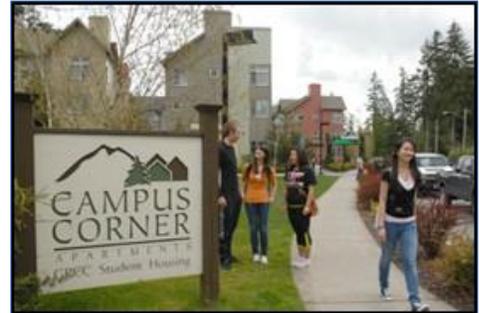
The Distributed Energy Management (DEM) Team brought their expertise to gain control over what was considered an unmanageable expense.

- *Established budgetary process:* To monitor utility expenses going forward and clearly see the savings achieved resulting from capital and operational improvements.
- *Assessed living conditions:* To meet student comfort while providing a pathway to efficiency.
- *Created a strategic plan:* To reinvest a portion of realized utility savings into continuous energy cost reductions.
- *Developed financing:* To maximize available incentives and receive the most attractive financing.
- *Prioritized projects:* To work with vendors, utilities and other organizations to bring the most effective solutions for the student living conditions.

The Result

The utility budget was lowered by 15% after the first year even though it had been growing by 3% annually beforehand. The additional savings are being reinvested in equipment to drive down costs and increase student comfort.

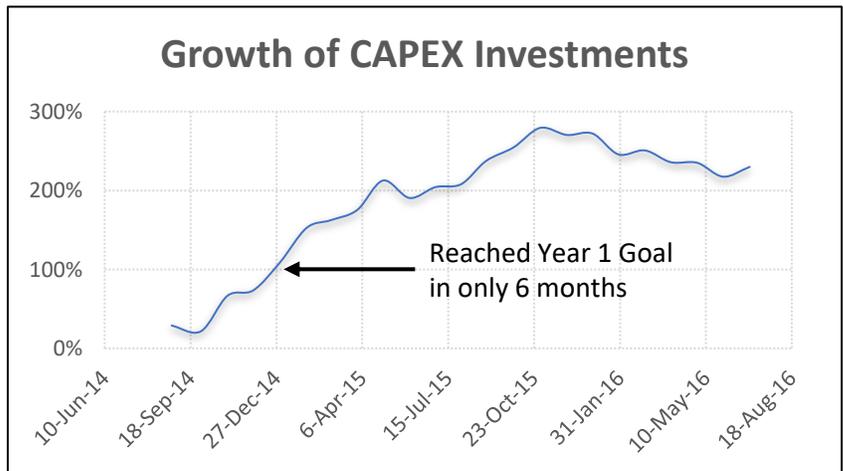
At long last, the apartment’s utility costs are under control.



“The comprehensive, disciplined guidance of DEM has rewarded us with lower, predictable utility costs. We can now plan and devote more of our resources to student service programs.”

- George Frasier, Executive Director, Green River College Foundation

Financial Summary



Project Summary

- Reduced utility budget by 15% between Year 1 and Year 2
- Doubled equipment investment due to savings in energy
- Lowered heating costs while improving resident control of comfort
- Implemented student orientation program of best living practices