



City of South Gate



Osie Harrell, Jr.,
Electrical & General
Maintenance
Superintendent, and
David E. Torres, Field
Operations Manager

The New City of South Gate: Sound Energy Management Saves Money and Rebuilds Trust

It was the wrong kind of publicity for a city building its future: several years of poor administration and political turmoil made the City of South Gate headline news and nearly destroyed the city's finances. After the crisis, a new regime of leaders and managers faced the challenge not only of restoring services and best practices, but also of rebuilding public confidence and the city's good name in the business community.

"We've come from a time of serious mismanagement into an era of teamwork, with the goals of integrity and efficiency at the top of the list," says Osie Harrell, Jr., Electrical & General Maintenance Superintendent in the City of South Gate Public Works Department. "This city was teetering. We're making a new start." David E. Torres, Field Operations Manager, concurs. "We're reestablishing excellent civil service to prove to South Gate's residents and prospective new businesses that we can run our city honestly and effectively. Sound energy management is a key part of that effort, and we're glad Southern California Edison (SCE) is on the team."

Combined Programs for Energy Savings

Serving a population of 110,000, South Gate's first step in improving their energy management was to see where their dollars were being spent. With SCE's help, they consolidated their many single billing statements to an easier-to-manage summary bill. Then they reassigned some services to more advantageous rates to shift loads, optimize their spending, and give themselves better flexibility. EnergyManager® Basic, SCE's Internet-based suite of tools, gave Harrell and Torres real-time feedback on their consumption patterns and savings opportunities. A class at SCE's Customer Technology Application Center (CTAC) in Irwindale showed them how to put it to use.

Next came participation in SCE's Agricultural Express Efficiency (AgEE), Technical Assistance & Technology Incentives (TA&TI), and Demand Bidding Programs (DBP). AgEE offered financial incentives to improve the efficiency of South Gate's water pumps, which pump 3 million gallons a day from underground wells. The increased efficiency could save over 350,000 kWh (more than \$40,000

Estimated Savings by Managing Energy

- *Location:* City of South Gate, CA
- *Industry:* Municipality
- *SCE Programs Utilized:* Demand Bidding Program, Agricultural Express Efficiency, Technical Assistance & Technology Incentives (TA&TI) Program, and SCE EnergyManager® Basic
- *Results:* Potential energy savings of over 1 million kWh (\$120,000 annually) using SCE's energy management programs

ESTIMATED ANNUAL SAVINGS

\$120,000+

Energy Management Success Story

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annually) and make the city eligible for a \$28,000 rebate. Through SCE's TA&TI Program, South Gate received a free assessment and a detailed analysis of their demand response potential at several of their larger facilities, and found potential for incentives toward the purchase and installation of demand response technologies. During the heat wave in July 2006, South Gate already showed their ability for successfully saving energy during the peak hours by reducing nearly 10,000 kWh, for which they realized bill savings and incentives of over \$3,000. Using the TA&TI incentives, the city will be able to improve their system technologies and achieve even greater demand response savings. Going forward, South Gate is also looking at utilizing SCE's Express Solutions, for additional energy savings of 700,000 kWh, or over \$80,000 annually.

The Big Difference of Small Measures

South Gate projects that their 2007 total combined savings from these energy management measures will exceed a million kWh, saving the city over \$120,000 annually. "You might not think the nickels and dimes make a difference," says Harrell, "but when you save consistently, you're saving bigger all the time." Torres agrees.

"SCE embraced our commitment to bringing South Gate back, and they were ready to help us with training, support, and money-saving programs we needed. We're planning to use SCE's Savings by Design Program to capture energy savings on the drawing board for our new Gateway City Walk project, which we intend to be a major shopping and recreation destination. Our Council and the city leadership are all behind this because they see the results."

Better Quality of Life, Restored City Pride

"There's been no compromise to our quality of life from South Gate's using any of these programs," says Torres. "In fact, the community is pleased because we're saving money, and that's critically important to us not just for the financial benefit, but as a matter of civic pride. We're rebuilding the community's trust." "We're raising our accountability for every public dollar we spend," Harrell agrees. "And we're seeing that trust return. City Council, business owners, and residents are all breathing a sigh of relief, and that's satisfying to us. We have a calling to make this city as great as it can be, and with energy management practices like these, we're answering that calling every day."

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Osie Harrell, Jr., Electrical & General Maintenance Superintendent, and David E. Torres, Field Operations Manager, City of South Gate Public Works Department

Earn Even More Savings with Other SCE Offerings

Southern California Edison offers a range of energy management solutions to help you better manage your electricity costs.

- Save more with SCE's Pumping and Agricultural Real-Time Pricing (PA-RTP) and other Demand Response (DR) Programs.
(866) 334-7827
www.sce.com/dr
- Install SCE's Automated Demand Response (Auto-DR), which incorporates automated load control systems (such as an energy management system) to carry out DR strategies without manual intervention.
(800) 736-4777
www.sce.com/autodr
- Purchase qualifying energy-efficient equipment or technologies and receive incentives and rebates through SCE's Express and Customized Solutions.
(800) 736-4777
www.sce.com/solutions
- Take free SCE classes in water irrigation, well efficiency, pipeline flow measurement, lighting, HVAC, energy management and more at an Edison Energy Center.
Irwindale: (800) 336-2822
www.sce.com/ctac
Tulare: (800) 772-4822
www.sce.com/agtac
- Take the Online Business Survey at www.sce.com/_Tools/Business/online-energy-guide to calibrate your facility for savings.

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SCE Account Representative,
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