

## Spotlight on Savings

### Carbondale City Hall and Civic Center RCx Study

SEDAC congratulates the City of Carbondale for implementing energy savings measures at its City Hall and Civic Center. The upgrades are projected to save **\$18,000** in annual energy costs.



Mark Bollmann, Facilities and Property Management Manager for the City of Carbondale, reached out to SEDAC to perform a retro-commissioning (RCx) study because he sensed that the building energy systems weren't operating very efficiently. RCx works to ensure that equipment and systems function as intended and operate at optimal efficiency. By focusing on operational and maintenance improvements, which often require less capital investment, RCx offers significant energy cost savings at a relatively low cost.

SEDAC identified measures that are projected to **reduce total energy consumption by 34% and annual energy costs by 24%**. The simple payback period for all measures combined was **less than 2 months, with incentives**. The RCx study was funded through the Ameren Illinois Energy Efficiency Program.

*"The ease and professionalism working with SEDAC is tremendous. Your staff is full of knowledge and you give it freely to help us. We appreciate your commitment."*

--Mark Bollmann

Read the full case study [here](#).

Are you interested in RCx services for your facility? [Learn more](#) about SEDAC's RCx services for non-residential facilities in Ameren Illinois territory.

## Workshop Wrap-up

### Wastewater Treatment Plant Energy Efficiency

SEDAC hosted two workshops for Wastewater Operators on October 29 in Peoria and November 5 in Effingham. Attendees learned about energy efficiency best practices, resources and trends from the IEPA WWTP Energy Efficiency Program.



Presentations from the Rural Community Assistance Program (RCAP) and Ameren Illinois demonstrated the wealth of resources for rural communities and wastewater facilities to fund efficiency upgrades and receive support.

The Sangamon County Water Reclamation District, Greater Peoria Sanitary District, City of Fairfield and City of Shelbyville all shared insights on the energy assessment process and next steps on their energy efficiency journey. We discussed how VFDs are a common measure to reduce energy use, and LEDs and photocells are also a great way to uncover easy savings. Finally, inflow and infiltration issues can lead to high energy costs to treat excess water, which we plan to address in future events.

Thanks to our speakers, hosts (Peoria County Farm Bureau and the Effingham County Illinois Extension Office) and Ameren Illinois for sponsoring breakfast!

### **View the Presentations**

If you missed the workshops or want to review what you learned, access presentation slides [here](#).

Funding provided in whole or in part by the Illinois EPA Office of Energy.

## **Energy Code Training Opportunities**

### **Attend an energy code webinar or workshop!**

Participants who attend a training session can now earn continuing education credits from the International Code Council (ICC) and the American Institute of Architects (AIA).



- Workshop. Top 40 Requirements You Should Know: 2018 IECC. November 15, 2019 from 1-4 pm in Aurora, IL
- Workshop. Top 40 Requirements You Should Know: 2018 IECC. December 3, 2019 from 1-4pm in Chicago, IL.
- Webinar. Top 10 Requirements You Should Know: 2018 IECC Commercial Lighting. December 18, 2019 from noon to 1 pm.
- Webinar. Top 10 Requirements You Should Know: 2018 IECC Commercial HVAC. January 29, 2020 from noon to 1 pm.

Find out more and register [here](#).

## **Vote to Improve America's Building Energy Code (IECC)**

### **A message from the Energy Efficient Codes Coalition**

Are you a member of the International Code Council (ICC)? Now is the time to vote for proposed changes to the upcoming 2021 International Energy Conservation Code (IECC). The International Energy Conservation Code (IECC) is considered America's 'model building energy code' because it serves as



the basis for nearly every state, city and county residential and commercial energy code. Your vote will have major impacts on housing/business affordability and the climate.

Despite the myriad benefits from efficient buildings, too few governmental members vote on the IECC. Low voter turnout has resulted in a stagnant IECC over the past two code cycles, with less than 1% efficiency improvement in both 2015 and 2018 IECC. With enough pro-efficiency votes this cycle, we can achieve a 10% improvement in the 2021 IECC and set America's building energy code on a path to Net Zero by the year 2050 or sooner.

Online voting will take place between November 18 and December 5 and is the final step in the year-long code development process for the 2021 IECC.

ICC Governmental Member Voting Representatives can log in to vote [here](#). The Energy-Efficient Codes Coalition voting guide is available [here](#). For more information: [energyefficientcodes.org](http://energyefficientcodes.org) or call (720) 323-0142.

## Notes from the Field

### Why won't my uniform dry?

When officers at a police station mentioned that their uniforms took forever to dry, we did some exploring.

We found that the combustion air intake was positioned immediately next to the dryer exhaust. The dryer exhaust was clogged, as was the intake. Not only should there be greater separation between the two, but occasional maintenance would help, too. Since the dryer cannot exhaust properly, drying uniforms takes much longer, places a far greater strain on the machine, reduces the lifespan of the drier, uses more electricity, and costs more money to run.



Poorly venting dryers also pose a significant fire hazard. According to the National Fire Protection Association, nearly 17,000 clothes dryer fires are reported each year, and the leading cause of these fires is failure to clean dryer vents and exhaust.

Additionally, the clogged combustion air intake was contributing to a poorly venting gas-fired water heater which is of far greater concern than slow-drying uniforms.

#### *SEDAC Smart Tip:*

- *Clean the dryer lint filter before and after each load of laundry.*
- *Regularly check the outdoor vent flap to make sure it opens when the dryer is on and is not blocked or covered by snow or stuck open due to lint.*
- *Every 6 months, or more often if you notice that it is taking longer to dry your clothes, clean lint out of the vent pipe and clean the dryer exhaust and intake.*

[sedac.org](http://sedac.org) / 800.214.7954 / [info@sedac.org](mailto:info@sedac.org)

**Providing effective energy efficiency strategies for buildings and communities**

