

SANDIEGORC_x

HOPPS RETROCOMMISSIONING PROGRAM

Retrocommissioning (RCx) can help you improve the performance of your building's systems, achieve energy savings and improve occupant comfort. Retrocommissioning measures are typically low- or no-cost and yield a quick payback, often just a few months.

WHAT IS RETROCOMMISSIONING?

Retrocommissioning is a process for investigating the mechanical, lighting and control systems of an existing building and identifying operational improvements. Typical issues identified include:

- Simultaneous heating and cooling
- Lighting and HVAC running when not required
- Control sensors out of calibration
- Suboptimal use of existing components, such as "free cooling" with economizers

By addressing these common but subtle operational problems, you can eliminate energy waste while improving the performance and extending the life of your building's systems.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

The RCx Program is open to SDG&E's commercial electric and gas customers who operate buildings with the following characteristics:

- At least 50,000 square feet of conditioned space
- Existing mechanical equipment and digital controls are in good working condition or will be repaired
- No major changes to operations have occurred in the past six months or are planned for the next year

RCx projects can result in savings of **5%–20% of total building energy costs**, with simple paybacks from energy savings averaging less than 2 years.

WHAT ARE THE INCENTIVES?

Many buildings are not retrocommissioned because of the upfront costs of the investigation to identify operational improvements. The RCx Program's incentive structure overcomes this hurdle:

- **Free Custom Engineering Study** The RCx Program pays 100% of the cost associated with a custom engineering study (investigation). This investigation incentive is paid directly to the RCx Provider.
- **Implementation & Maintenance Incentive** Once measures are identified, the Program provides financial assistance to reduce payback periods for eligible measures. This implementation and maintenance incentive, paid directly to the customer, is up to \$0.08 per kWh and \$1.00 per therm. To promote long-term savings, these incentives are paid out over a three-year maintenance period.

RCX PROGRAM INCENTIVES

Investigation Incentive:

100% of the investigation is paid by the Program through a custom incentive.

Implementation & Maintenance (I&M) Incentive:

Up to \$0.08 per kWh and \$1.00 per therm is paid to the customer for eligible measures in four payments that offset implementation costs and promote long-term savings.

HOW DOES THE PROGRAM WORK?

Qualified buildings receive a free custom engineering study from one of the Program's specialized Providers. This investigation takes three to four months and digs deep into the building's systems to uncover hidden energy savings opportunities. The investigation includes interviews with building operators, collection of trend data, functional tests and an engineering analysis to compile a list of energy-saving measures.

As soon as measures are identified, the Program provides an offer of financial assistance (implementation incentives) to the customer to help reduce the cost of implementing measures. The customer can implement measures with in-house staff or third party contractors of their choosing.

Once implementation is complete, energy savings are verified by the Provider and the building staff is trained on maintaining the savings. Once energy savings are confirmed with the utility, the Program pays the customer 40% of the I&M incentive. Program staff then monitors energy savings and meets with the building staff annually for three years to review performance. The remaining 60% of the I&M incentive is paid to the customer over that same period based on the maintained energy savings.

To be eligible for RCx Program incentives, the customer must commit funds to implement energy-saving measures that pay back in two years or less after incentives are applied. The customer's obligation is capped at 5% of the building's annual electric cost.

WHO PROVIDES THE RCX SERVICES?

The Program has a pre-qualified a pool of highly trained Providers (engineering firms) that work directly with customers throughout their RCx project. Providers are qualified based on their expertise in identifying operational energy savings opportunities and previous experience with RCx projects.

HOW TO APPLY

Contact us today to submit an application to the Program and arrange a no-cost, no-obligation facility screening.

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