

Sweetwater Union High School District

2013 ENERGY CHAMPION - K-12



"In these tough economic times, our district facilities staff has worked closely with SDG&E to come up with a strong plan for reducing our energy use. These improvements have the direct result of making more funds available to support educating our kids."

TOM CALHOUN,
CHIEF FACILITIES EXECUTIVE,
SWEETWATER UNION
HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

As one of its numerous energy-saving measures, desktop management software was installed on PCs across the entire Sweetwater Union High School District to automatically power down computers that hadn't been used in some time.

Annual Savings: 3,377,728 kWh; 2,153 therms
SDG&E® Incentives: \$608,615

Highlights

- Energy-efficient HVAC systems
- Lighting retrofit and occupancy sensors
- Desktop management software on 4,000 PCs
- 3.3 MW of photovoltaics installed with 6.8 MW planned

Earning high marks in energy efficiency

For Sweetwater Union High School District, every dollar saved through energy efficiency is another dollar available to invest in the classroom. Economic realities have reduced the district's general fund by a third over the past five years, so any operational improvements that relieve budget strain are critical. This is why the district has made a strong commitment to sustainability and energy efficiency. Through a variety of SDG&E® programs, Sweetwater has updated major equipment systems and implemented renewable energy sources, which have resulted in significant savings. Notes Tom Calhoun, Chief Facilities Executive for Sweetwater Union High School District, "The less we pay for energy, the more we can do for our students." With this powerful motivation, the district has set the aggressive goal of reducing the cost of its energy bills by 25%. It also has plans to

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