News & Updates from our members and ESC State Chapters

ESC in the Spotlight

SAVE THE DATE:
The ESC and the Nevada ESC Chapter will host the 6th Annual Market Transformation Conference August 9 through the 11th, 2017 in Henderson, Nevada. The conference is being held at the Green Valley Ranch and Spa. Registration is now open. Watch this space for important conference updates.

Spotlight on Nevada

The Energy Services Coalition (ESC), Nevada Chapter, together with the Governor’s Office of Energy (GOE), recently facilitated a half-day workshop at Reno’s Innevation Center. The workshop brought together building owners, financial managers, facility managers, energy engineers, and contractors to focus on performance contracting and the benefits of utilizing GOE’s Performance Contract Audit Assistance Program (PCAAP). Since the inception of PCAAP in 2014, the GOE has awarded $1.1 million to accelerate performance contracting and expects to provide more than $890,000 in incentives which will lead to $38.3 million in performance contracts in FY 2018.

The half-day workshop featured a powerful keynote address from Adam Kramer, Executive Vice President of Strategy for Switch, the nation’s greenest IT company. Switch is building or retrofitting their data centers to USGBC’s LEED Platinum standard. Panel presentations emphasized the financing component of Energy Savings Performance Contracting (ESPC), how ESPC works, and a case study presentation was conducted by the 5th largest school district in the United States; Clark County School District. The day concluded with a "Behind the Scenes" tour of the Innevation Center, featuring its $1.5 million in HVAC, lighting, and controls improvements made through PCAAP funding.
Spotlight on Kentucky:

The Kentucky ESC Chapter is promoting an upcoming workshop on energy improvements in public facilities. The workshop, co-hosted by a number of organizations including the Kentucky Energy and Environment Cabinet Department for Energy Develop and Independence is titled "High Performance Public Facilities Workshop." The event is being held at the Madisonville Community and Technical College on May 24, 2017.

"The procurement and upgrade of energy saving technologies for public facilities are often necessary to reduce wasteful spending and budgetary inefficiencies, said Sandra Dunahoo, Department of Local Government Commissioner. "Local officials have numerous opportunities to utilize these cost saving advances in technology to not only enrich their communities but practice better fiscal stewardship."

Spotlight on Delaware:

The Sustainable Energy Training Center at Delaware Technical Community College's Stanton Campus is the site of the Delaware Energy Services Coalition next membership meeting on April 27th from 9 to 11am. The meeting is open to all members invited guests.

Agenda items include election of Board Members, Bond issue update, and a presentation from Governor Carney's office on the Governor's "Action Plan for Delaware" including policy/legislation initiatives for energy and environment as well as a general budget overview.

The Delaware ESC Chapter will be announcing the October ESC Energy Conference date and venue soon.

Spotlight on Michigan:

The Marquette City Commission approved taking the next step towards developing an energy savings performance contract. Commissioners voted 5-2 to approve a project development agreement with JCI and allow them to move ahead with an energy and engineering study to ascertain
the cost of the project. The goal of the project, estimated to cost about $18 million, is to identify and fund infrastructure upgrades to city facilities and utilities with an emphasis on energy reduction. Should the city move ahead with the project after the initial energy study, a loan would pay for upgrades. The loan wouldn’t register as debt due to 2016 state legislation because the upgrades would then be self-financed through the generated energy savings over the life of the contract.

Michigan enacted a collection of bills in June 2016 on energy conservation financing for local governments to allow tax-exempt lease purchase agreements. TELP agreements allow governments to void accruing debt and are paid through annual appropriations that can be suspended if there is dissatisfaction with the purchase, according to the House Fiscal Agency’s legislative analysis. TELP agreements can span up to 20 years, cannot exceed the useful life of the item purchased and are renewed annually during budget deliberations.

**Spotlight on New York:**

West Seneca held a ground-breaking ceremony to mark the start of construction on the community center and library expansion. The library, a small 1965-era building, will benefit from energy efficiency upgrades funded through a GESPC. Garden City High School officials recently were given a presentation on the findings of the energy savings achieved through the implementation of the School’s Investment Bond and Energy Performance Contract. The project was completed less than two years ago with a total $36.5 million invested in physical plant of the district, and was projected to pay for itself in energy cost savings in 15 years. The project involved building management and control systems on HVAC equipment in all schools and district buildings, comprehensive lighting retrofitting in the district (6,000 fixtures). Boilers replacement at a number of schools and a number of smaller measures and PV installations at the high school and middle school, as well as variable drives and motors. To date $1.436 million has been saved in electrical cost (usage) measuring the kilowatt hours. The school district is not using oil burners as a result of the Energy Performance plan, and in just over twelve months that has saved 248,000 gallons of oil. The cost savings from eliminating oil is an additional $826,783 in savings - over the contract’s guaranteed saving of $731,000. The environmental benefit in Garden City Schools is the equivalent of 1421 cars taken off the road and saving 53.7 acres of trees.

Residents of the Byron-Bergen Central School district were scheduled to vote March 31 on a proposed capital improvement project, including a GESPC for energy efficiency improvements. The project’s primary focus will be on the elementary school, which has not seen major updates or renovations to its classrooms since opening in 1969.

Oneonta Schools will ask voters to approve a proposition on its May 16th ballot that will lead to an 18-year $2.8 million GESPC with C&S Companies out of Syracuse to install energy-efficient LED lighting. Though the GESPC does not need to go before voters, passing it as a proposition will give the school an extra 10 percent in state aid.

**Spotlight on Arkansas:**

Pulaski County officials will soon vote on a plan to use a state program to help finance energy-efficiency upgrades through a GESPC at the county’s 14 buildings that are projected to save nearly $9 million over 15 years.

**Spotlight on Mississippi:**
The Nettleton School District is partnering with Schneider Electric on a GESPC. The district is taking out a 16-year loan to finance the $2.2 million project. The school's current HVAC units are 20 years old, and the investment is not just providing energy savings, but more comfort for students in the classroom, because of new heating and cooling units.

The Lee County Board of Supervisors voted recently for an RFQ as a precursor to formally awarding an IGA and GESPC estimated at $1.5 million.

Natchez County is entertaining the idea of a GESPC in county facilities including the courthouse and jail. The project will save the county between $57,682 and $70,482 per year. The county is currently spending $241,000 a year on energy, with the two biggest drains being the courthouse and the jail. The jail is costing approximately $97,000 annually and the courthouse $63,200. The County is looking at financing the project through a tax-exempt lease purchase and the Mississippi Development Authority Energy Efficiency Lease Program. Entegy Mississippi could also offer the county rebates on upgrades.

**Spotlight on Texas:**

Aransas County Commissioners are considering a proposal to upgrade and maintain lighting and HVAC equipment in the courthouse and jail. The proposal would use the Performance Contract Legislation 2166.406, also known as Energy Savings Performance Contracts for local governments. According to Texas local government code Chapter 302, an energy savings performance contract is a contract between a local government and a provider for energy or water conservation or usage in which the estimated energy savings, utility cost savings, increase in billable revenues, or increase in meter accuracy resulting from the measures is subject to guarantee to offset the cost of the energy or water conservation or usage measures over a specified period of time.

The City of Taylor is addressing deferred maintenance projects and making facility modifications as part of a GESPC with Siemens. The contract will allow the city to make infrastructure improvements, and use the more than $1 million of projected energy savings to fund upgrades over the next 15 years. The initial project phase involves making energy-efficient changes, such as retrofitting lighting with LED bulbs and assessing various aging HVAC systems in 17 buildings throughout the city, including the library, City Hall and the municipal court.

**Spotlight on Georgia:**

Georgia World Congress Center Authority (GWCCA) recently unveiled upgrades to the Atlanta convention center that are expected to cut energy costs and reduce the Center's carbon footprint by 39 percent annually, saving more than $2.5 million in the first year alone.

The GWCCA, featuring the landmark convention center, represents a significant economic driver for the state. GWCCA leaders report that the 2016 economic impact of the convention center was $1.1 billion and that in its entirety, the GWCCA, including the convention center, currently ranks as the number one sports, entertainment, and convention destination in the world. The GWCCA funded the $28 million project through the Georgia Energy Savings Contracting Procurement program, making it the state's largest stand-alone energy performance contract and the nation's largest for any public assembly venue, according to the GWCCA.

**Spotlight on Florida:**

Tallahassee Community College has signed a 15-
year performance contract with Siemens for building technology and infrastructure improvements that will save more than $8.6 million in energy costs and nearly $750,000 in operational costs.

Spotlight on Kansas:
The City of Lawrence announced that it has awarded a $10.9 million contract for a comprehensive energy-efficiency and facility-improvement project encompassing 40 City-owned buildings. The project includes a 100-kW rooftop solar array, converting all building lighting to LED technology, redesigning the HVAC systems at the Holcom Recreation Center, modifying air distribution and other systems to resolve indoor air quality deficiencies at the indoor aquatic center, replacing failing chillers and boilers, upgrading antiquated rooftop HVAC units and split systems, and redesigning building envelopes with higher efficiency technology.

Spotlight on Hawaii:
Honolulu's Nauru Tower luxury condominium has completed an energy savings performance contract valued at $4.6 million, which aims to reduce its common area energy use by up to 40 percent. Energy saving measures done at Nauru include the replacement of garage ceiling lights and other building lighting to more efficient lighting, a retrofit of the building's chilled and hot water system with new chillers, booster pumps and heat pumps and the installation of a monitoring system that immediately alerts the tower's site staff if any system goes offline.

Nauru Tower has already received rebate checks from Hawaii Energy totaling $173,563. The tower's board expects to get a payback on its investment in 10 years.

Built in 1990, the 44-story tower has 304 residential units and 10 commercial units.

Spotlight on Pennsylvania:
The Philadelphia School District says it will launch an energy-savings pilot program that could eventually save hundreds of millions of dollars and help make a dent in the system's $4.5 billion in deferred capital projects.

Philly.com reports that district officials estimate that entering into an energy performance contract could cut the school system's energy costs in half. Over 20 years, more efficient systems and practices could save the district $600 million.

If a three-school pilot program slated to begin this fall is successful, the program could go citywide over the next several years. The district currently spends about $45 million on energy costs annually. Officials say they believe they can get that down to about $23 million. An assessment of district buildings released earlier this year found more than 12,000 outstanding repairs at public schools across the city.

Spotlight on North Carolina:
In 2015, Rockingham County entered into an Energy Performance Contract to upgrade the utilities at multiple County facilities. This project
was carried out by ABM Inc. The project included $2.3 million in upgrades to existing utilities, was completed in November 2016.

Spotlight on Rhode Island:
Rhode Island College (RIC) is instituting a $5 million GESPC expected to save the college more than $340,000 in avoided energy costs annually for the next 15 years. The ESPC project includes energy efficiency and infrastructure upgrades to 33 buildings and 1.2 million square feet on campus. Construction is currently underway and scheduled to be completed in September 2018. In support of the college’s sustainability goals, the efficiency project is expected to help reduce CO2 emissions by approximately 4,141,058 pounds annually, the equivalent to removing 344 cars from the road each year.

Spotlight on New Mexico:
Santa Fe County is reviewing proposals for an RFP for Energy Performance Services to provide comprehensive energy and water management and related capital improvement services through a GESPC that will improve the energy and water efficiency of county facilities.

Spotlight on Massachusetts:
Eleven Haverville public schools will receive $2.5 million of energy efficiency upgrades as a result of a 20-year GESPC between the city and Ameresco. Some of the energy conservation measures are upgrades to lighting system technology, lighting control upgrades, energy management system upgrades and steam trap replacements.

The 2017 ESC Virtual Tradeshow is now open:
The Energy Services Coalition is pleased to announce our first exhibitors to our Virtual Trade Show in support of the 2017 ESC Market Transformation Conference in Henderson, Nevada. These sponsors have a virtual booth in the tradeshow on our website, as well as having booth space reserved at the conference this summer. For more information check out our sponsorship opportunities and visit the virtual tradeshow. (As a coalition of public and private energy professionals we do not endorse or promote any private sector product or solution.)
Race to The Top:
To see the amount of Guaranteed Energy Savings Performance Contracting (GESPC) investments in state and local buildings in a particular state, click here for the state map. The amounts listed are based on the information that has been provided by the states. States with out-of-date or missing data are encouraged to contact ESC at info@energyservicescoalition.org to have your data added or updated.