

Contract Details

Contract Type:

Design / Build; Energy Information;
Energy Savings Performance Contract;
Power Purchase Agreement

Technology Type:

Energy Efficiency; Photovoltaic
Systems; Renewable Energy

Annual Cost Savings:

\$739,019

Annual Energy Savings:

4,976,468 kWh
18,671 therms

Renewable Energy Project Size:

570 kW
739,169 kWh generated annually



The PV installation on the Silvia Elementary School rooftop.

Customer Benefits

New web-based Energy Management Systems enable control and monitoring, while significantly improving building comfort and saving energy. New elevators, air handlers, chillers and boilers all contribute to energy savings, as well as maintenance savings. These significant capital improvements are all funded by future guaranteed energy savings.

Implementation of the lighting upgrades saves energy, and results in annual maintenance savings, since the installation of new lamps and ballasts reduces service intervals. These measures improve the overall color, quality and consistency of the City's lighting, as well as provide illumination levels in compliance with the current standards and reduce energy use.

The solar power purchase agreement (PPA) provided a no-capital-cost approach for the City to utilize renewable energy. Under the PPA, Ameresco designed, built, owns, operates and maintains the solar photovoltaic (PV) electricity generating systems. The PPA established a decrease in electricity cost from the utility grid and is fixed, thus providing predictable future electricity budget costs, which are not subject to commodity price spikes or utility distribution price inflation. Predictable budgets enable the City to plan annual budgets without sudden surprises that affect City services and school budgets. In addition, the City's electricity prices are shielded from carbon trading or carbon tax legislative price increases.

As an educational benefit for the schools, Ameresco equipped each lobby with a flat screen monitor to display key solar performance data through pictures, graphs and text in a user friendly way. The data includes weather conditions, system performance, project photos and information. Historical production values and CO₂ offset and equivalencies are available. The data updates every 15 minutes throughout the day. A public website is available to the community to access to the information at any time.

Summary

The City of Fall River entered into a multi-phase project partnership with Ameresco to install energy efficiency improvements, as well as renewable energy systems to upgrade the City's infrastructure, reduce energy costs, and develop a green community. To achieve these goals, the City executed an energy savings performance contract (ESPC) and a solar power purchase agreement (PPA).



The upper image from the software features CO₂ offset and equivalencies; the lower image features historical energy data.

For real-time energy information, visit:
<http://solar.myenergypro.com/CityofFallRiver>.

About City of Fall River, MA

Fall River is a city in Bristol County, Massachusetts, in the United States. It is located about 46 miles south of Boston. The city's population was 88,857 during the 2010 census, making it the tenth largest city in the state. Located along the eastern shore of Mount Hope Bay at the mouth of the Taunton River, the City became famous during the 19th century as the leading textile manufacturing center in the United States. While the textile industry has long since moved on, its impact on the City's culture and landscape remains to this day.

Learn more at www.fallriverma.org.

About Ameresco

Ameresco, Inc. (NYSE:AMRC) is one of the leading energy efficiency and renewable energy services providers. Our energy experts deliver long-term customer value, environmental stewardship, and sustainability through energy efficiency services, alternative energy, supply management, and innovative facility renewal all with practical financial solutions. Ameresco and its predecessors have constructed billions in projects throughout North America and Europe.

For more information about Ameresco and our full-range of energy efficiency and renewable energy solutions, please visit www.ameresco.com.



This project included the LED conversion of 6,000 streetlights and more than 300 decorative poles.

Accolades

"Not only will these projects save the City money year after year, they have upgraded critical infrastructure without the need for capital funds. And the new LED streetlights have made the City safer at the same time."

Chris Gallagher

*Interim Director of Buildings and Grounds
City of Fall River*

Environmental Benefits

The project helps reduce the need for energy from traditional power plants fueled by fossil fuels and through the City's partnership with Ameresco, Fall River is expected to save the equivalent of 1,672 metric tons of CO₂ per year. The green benefit from this carbon reduction is roughly equal to:

- ▶ 380 acres of pine forest absorbing carbon
- ▶ 306 cars taken off the road for one year
- ▶ 232 households powered for one year



Services Provided

The 1st phase energy savings performance contract (ESPC) utilized a federal grant to enable a comprehensive lighting retrofit with no capital cost from the City's budget.

Phases 2 and 3 provided new HVAC, Energy Management Systems and lighting/controls at an additional eight schools, as well as, Government Center/Council Chambers and the Main Library and also included elevator system refurbishment.

Project phase 4 included a city-wide LED conversion of 6,000 streetlights and more than 300 decorative poles.

Ameresco designed and built four PV systems for the City. These installations are located at the Water Treatment Plant (ground and roof mount), the Edmund P. Talbot Middle School, the Frank M. Silvia Elementary School, and the Matthew J. Kuss Middle School. The combined system consists of 2,624 solar modules.



The ground mount PV installation at the Water Treatment Plant.