Project Details

Contract Type:
Energy Savings Performance Contract

Technology Type:
Solar; LEDs; Energy Efficiency; Electric Vehicle Charging Stations

Facility Size:
2.8M Sq. Ft.

Project Size:
$25.4 Million
3-Megawatt

Annual Energy Savings:
The positive annual cash flow to MSP is more than $170,000, and the 30-year net present value (NPV) is over $10 million.

Project Summary

Ameresco is proud to be a sustainability partner in an innovative project with the Minneapolis St. Paul International Airport (MSP). MSP, which is governed by the Metropolitan Airports Commission (MAC), is currently the 17th busiest airport in North America. This project includes solar, supply and demand side technology, electric vehicle charging stations, LED lighting, and a 20-year operations and maintenance agreement.

Customer Benefits

Collaboration was eminent in this iconic $25.4 million solar project at MSP. The comprehensive project will increase the state’s cumulative solar capacity and save greenhouse gas emissions.

Ameresco worked with nine governmental entities to coordinate project driven reallocation of Qualified Energy Conservation Bonds (QECBs). Through grants, QECBs, and partnerships, Ameresco assisted MSP in identifying financing to offset costs of the project. The positive annual cash flow to MSP is more than $170,000, and the 30-year NPV is over $10 million.

Environmental Benefits

Through MSP’s partnership with Ameresco, the airport saves the equivalent of 6,813 metric tons of CO2 per year. The green benefit from this carbon reduction is roughly equal to:

- Eliminating electricity-related emissions from about 1,434 vehicles each year.

Accolades

“The Metropolitan Airports Commission has worked for decades to operate Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport as sustainably as possible, investing millions in infrastructure to reduce impacts to soil, water and air quality, and spending nearly a half-billion dollars on noise mitigation around MSP,” said Jeff Hamiel, the Commission’s executive director and CEO. “This ambitious new solar energy project will create jobs, reduce the airport’s carbon footprint, and improve the Airports Commission’s financial bottom line. I want to thank all the public and private entities who have worked with us to make this project possible.”
About MSP Airport
Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport is one of seven airports owned and operated by the Metropolitan Airports Commission (MAC) in the Minneapolis-St. Paul metropolitan area. A public corporation of the State of Minnesota, the MAC generates the revenue needed to operate its airports from rents and fees paid by airport users. A recent economic impact study estimates that MSP generates more than $10 billion in annual economic activity in the metropolitan area and supports more than 76,000 jobs.

Learn more at https://www.mspairport.com/.

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.

Services Provided
Ameresco was chosen to construct and engineer a comprehensive solution for MSP that would meet its sustainability and financial goals. Teaming up with other local entities, Ameresco led MSP on an innovative solar project, and helped MAC go after unconventional funding sources and source efficiency capital allowing MAC to do more.

Ameresco installed solar panels on 2 parking ramps at MSP Terminal 1. The 3-megawatt solar, custom steel superstructure, supports more 8,705 solar panels. During the design phase, engineers had to consider significant snowfall, frigid temperatures, and FAA regulations on airport glint and glare. The project was completed on a 15-month construction schedule, and completed on-time despite harsh weather conditions. During construction of the energy savings and sustainability project, more than 253 jobs were created. Local union labor, local installation and local product companies were utilized.

Additional solutions included converting lights to energy-saving technology. Amongst 4 parking ramps in Terminal 1, 7,743 metal halide light fixtures were converted to energy-saving LED technology. Ameresco replaced stairwell lighting, retrofitted light fixtures, and installed new rent-a-car area and top level lights.

Eight electric vehicle charging stations were installed at two ramps, bringing the total number of MSP charging stations at MSP to 18.

MAC is exemplary in the successes of pursuing renewable, energy efficient solutions.

Ameresco will provide a 20-year guarantee, and operations and maintenance services.

Awards
Minnesota Department of Transportation 2015 Technology and Innovation in Environmental Stewardship Award
City of Chicago Department of Aviation Airports 2015 Going Green Award

Ameresco replaced 7,743 metal halide light fixtures in 4 parking ramps to energy-saving LED technology.

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