

INFORMATION SHEET COLORADO | MINNESOTA

## Recommissioning

# SAVE ON ENERGY COSTS AND INCREASE COMFORT WITH RECOMMISSIONING FROM XCEL ENERGY



Every building has the potential to operate more efficiently. In fact, conducting a building tune-up — "recommissioning" or "retrocommissioning" — can help save as much as 20 percent on energy bills. Recommissioning your facility is an economical way to identify electric and natural-gas energy-efficiency improvements. In addition to energy savings, recommissioning offers a number of additional benefits:

- Earn valuable credits for environmental programs such as Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design for Existing Buildings (LEED EB) and it could increase your ENERGY STAR® score
- Achieve comfortable and convenient energy efficiency for both your organization and building tenants
- Increase equipment life
- Provides independent and objective direction for energy saving options

Our traditional recommissioning program involves two steps: 1) diagnosis; and 2) implementation. Xcel Energy offers rebates to offset out-of-pocket costs for both steps. And we'll work with you every step of the way until your project is complete.



# Step One – Conducting a Recommissioning Study

Over time, a building can fall out of optimization, or building and staff changes can alter the way your building runs. A recommissioning service provider of your choice will analyze your building and diagnose where you could make improvements to your building's existing systems, assess your potential energy savings and prepare a study report. Most improvements found in a recommissioning study can be made with little or no cost to you. The report will help you:

- Develop an objective business case for efficiency project approval
- Detail how best to run your building's current mechanical systems at peak efficiency
- Identify energy savings, costs estimates and corresponding rebate amounts for individual energy conservation opportunities available

### XCEL ENERGY REBATES HELP OFFSET RECOMMISSIONING COSTS

**Study Rebates:** Xcel Energy helps pay for upfront recommissioning study costs — up to 75 percent of the study cost (not to exceed \$25,000).

**Implementation Rebates:** Xcel Energy provides rebates up to 60 percent of the measure cost for implementing the energy-efficiency recommendations in your study.

## Step Two – Implement Recommendations

Once improvement measures are identified, the next step is to implement some or all of the recommendations, whichever makes sense for your company. Most recommissioning measures are low or no cost to you — and focus on equipment tune-ups rather than upgrades. Studies show typical energy savings up to 20 percent, with a simple payback of less than one year.

Typical recommissioning improvements include:

- Optimizing your HVAC equipment
- Updating lighting controls
- Identifying, updating or optimizing system controls
- Adjusting equipment to reduce longterm wear and tear
- · Restoring economizer operation

# Preapproval is required before you begin your study or implementation.

# **Xcel Energy Delivers a Variety of Rebate Options**

If you are looking to optimize the performance of your existing building systems, we offer a variety of Recommissioning programs designed to meet your energy conservation goals.

- 1) Recommissioning/
  Retrocommissioning Study and
  Implementation. Energy experts will
  conduct a comprehensive review of
  your building's energy consumption —
  even if your building was previously
  commissioned. Recommissioning
  studies will identify opportunities to
  effectively reduce your energy use
  up to 20 percent. You can earn study
  and implementation rebates with this
  option.
- 2) Fast Track Studies. This option is for customers who have completed a recommissioning study on their own, without receiving study funding from us. You can earn implementation rebates\* with this option.

- 3) Fast Track Proposal. This option is designed specifically for customers who may not be ready to undertake a comprehensive recommissioning study, yet have identified one or two specific recommissioning energy-saving measures. You can earn implementation rebates\* with this option, as well.
- 4) Refrigeration Recommissioning
  Studies. Supermarkets are the most electricity-intensive type of commercial building and refrigeration accounts for half of an average store's electricity use. Refrigeration recommissioning studies identify opportunities to tune up existing refrigeration systems rather than replace them, ensuring more reliable operation, which helps to avoid costly repairs and reduce downtime. You can earn study and implementation rebates with this option.
- \* In order to qualify for Fast Track rebates, your analysis should include energy saving estimates and demonstrate a thorough understanding of the affected equipment's energy and demand consumption.

#### Find Out if Recommissioning Is Right for You

Contact your Xcel Energy account representative, or contact our Business Solutions Center at **1-800-481-4700**. You also may visit **www.xcelenergy.com/recomm** for a full overview of product offerings, case studies and applications to get started today.

#### WHAT IS COMMISSIONING?

**Commissioning** is systematic and documented process of ensuring that specific building systems perform interactively according to the design intent and the owner's operational needs. With today's buildings and systems becoming more complex, the need for commissioning continues to grow. Unfortunately, commissioning remains an uncommon practice.

**Recommissioning** takes another look at a building that was previously commissioned to ensure it is once again running at optimal performance.

**Retrocommissioning** involves tuning up an existing building that was never formally commissioned. Unless you requested commissioning, it's likely your building's systems never were properly calibrated for ongoing efficiency.

Xcel Energy's Recommissioning program covers both recommissioning and retrocommissioning.

