



City of Eden Prairie

Control the flow to control the cash



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Water Treatment Supervisor:
Joe Dusek

With 15 water wells serving the needs of the city of Eden Prairie’s 62,000 residents, Water Treatment Supervisor Joe Dusek knows that it all comes down to control.

“We have VFDs on all of them to control the flow,” explain Dusek. “All 15 wells pump water from the aquifer to the treatment plant, so if we can control the flow, we can control the costs.”

When one of his VFDs failed recently, he was pleasantly surprised to learn from his Xcel Energy account manager that the replacements would be eligible for rebates.

“We were deciding between a soft start model and a VFD,” Dusek says. “In this case, we wanted more control so we opted for the VFDs and got a \$6,000 rebate on each which was 20 percent of the cost installed. It really helped offset the cost and made the project worthwhile.”

It wasn’t his first leap into efficiency. As a government entity, Dusek says they’re always looking for ways to be good stewards of the community and save money wherever possible.

They completed the following energy efficiency projects within the last two years:

- Replaced all fluorescent lamps in the treatment plants with 2,200 LED bulbs
- Completed an energy audit on their treatment plant and acted on some of the findings, such as installing occupancy sensors. They signed up for the audit at the utility’s Energy Expo to get it for half the normal cost.
- Completed a compressed air study, which was a recommendation of the audit and was funded by Xcel Energy
- Installed no-loss air drains in compressors and fixed the leaks in the system



Project Snapshot on new VFD

Project	Replace one older VFD on water well pumps with new, high efficiency model
Project cost	\$36,685 for one 100 hp VFD
Annual estimated energy savings	53,232 kWh
Rebate amount	\$6,000
Payback term	Less than one year

"They are also on Xcel Energy's peak control plan," says Jennifer Abbott, Xcel Energy account manager. "We talk about once a month about what should be happening next in terms of efficiency. They're always looking for ways to save."

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The next step on their energy efficiency journey will likely be to replace some aging motors. Dusek will be sure to check the rebate options and partner again with Xcel Energy to cut costs and save energy for years to come.



For more about Xcel Energy's energy efficiency programs, visit [xcelenergy.com/Business](https://www.xcelenergy.com/Business), or contact an energy efficiency specialist at **855.839.8862**.