

RETRO-COMMISSIONING (RCX) PROGRAM

Save on Energy Costs and Increase Comfort with Retro-Commissioning from Xcel Energy



Almost every building has potential to operate more efficiently, and almost every business has upgrades they would like to make to existing systems, if it makes economic sense.

Conducting a building tune-up, also known as recommissioning or retro-commissioning (RCx), can help save as much as 20 percent on energy bills. Xcel Energy offers free RCx studies to qualifying customers.

The RCx Program provides cash incentives for eligible capital projects as well as RCx type measures. The process toward incentives can be expedited if you are ready to look at upgrades from the outset.

Potential Program Benefits

- Retro-Commissioning your facility is an economical way to identify electric energy efficiency improvements, and 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
- Provide independent and objective direction for energy saving options

Participation in the Program

There is no cost for Xcel customers to participate in this program. We will talk with you to find out if you already have upgrades in mind that have potential incentives. We will also determine eligibility for RCx studies provided at no cost through the Program. The customers select the recommendations they want to follow and their schedules for implementing those projects.

Even for those customers that do not qualify for RCx studies, the RCx Program can provide other services at no cost. We can make recommendations for equipment replacements with high efficiency technology and advise on the requirements for potential cash incentives and how to use those incentives to buy down project paybacks.

This program covers existing buildings and new construction.

Paid Incentives in Past Xcel RCx Projects

- In 2020, client A received **\$250,767.19** for a lighting retrofit project.
- In 2019, client B received **\$146,213.65** for a lighting retrofit project.
- In 2018 client C received **\$25,146.11** for an HVAC upgrade project.

FIND OUT IF RETRO-COMMISSIONING IS RIGHT FOR YOU

Contact the Program Administrator, Willdan Energy Solutions at **281-638-7140**, your Xcel Energy account representative, or contact the program manager at **806-378-2887**.

You also may visit www.xcelenergyefficiency.com for a full overview of product offerings and applications to get started today.

Who Typically Benefits Most from Retro-commissioning?

While all buildings can benefit from retro-commissioning, candidates for the most savings are typically larger, conditioned buildings with relatively high energy usage.

Some typical markets may include:

- Healthcare (hospitals, assisted living, etc.)
- Office/Government Buildings
- Education (K-12, colleges, etc.)
- Hotels
- Supermarkets/Retail Stores
- Refrigerated Warehouses
- Distribution Centers
- Manufacturing Facilities
- Food Processing Facilities

The Retro-Commissioning Study

Over time, a building can fall out of optimization. A preliminary screening can be conducted to evaluate the project's energy savings potential. If approved to continue, a more thorough study will be conducted during the investigation phase by the RCx agent you select from our approved list.

The RCx agent will assess where you could make improvements to the building's existing systems, calculate potential energy savings, and prepare a report with recommendations.

Most retro-commissioning measures are low- or no-cost and focus on equipment tune-ups rather than replacements.

Studies show typical energy savings up to 20 percent, often with a simple payback of less than one year.

Once improvement measures are identified and approved, the next step is to implement some or all of the recommendations, according to your business priorities

Implement & Verify Recommendations

After implementation is complete, the RCx agent will revisit the site, collect cost and other relevant documentation, and prepare a verification report. The results of the approved verification report will be reviewed with you. An incentive check may be issued to you based on your verified energy savings, project costs and project timelines.

Pre-approval is required before you begin your study or implementation. Certain program restrictions apply.

Typical Retro-Commissioning Improvements

- Optimizing HVAC equipment scheduling
- Optimizing HVAC setpoints

- Optimizing HVAC system control sequences
- Restoring economizer operation
- Repairing sensors and other critical system components
- Minimizing/eliminating simultaneous heating & cooling
- Reducing minimum airflow setpoints

Typical Capital Improvements

- Lighting retrofits & controls
- HVAC equipment replacements
- Window replacements & film
- Adding variable frequency drives (VFDs)
- Premium efficiency motors
- Adding energy recovery units
- Adding demand control ventilation (DCV)
- Qualifying ENERGY STAR® appliances

Customer Eligibility Requirements for RCx Study:

- Have significant operational energy savings opportunities
- Have an existing building control system
- Have a serious interest and capability in implementing operational measures in a timely manner
- Have building systems that are relatively free of defect, with no major upgrades/replacements planned soon

Customer Eligibility Requirements for Program:

- Be an Xcel Energy commercial electricity customer within our service area in Texas.
- Be a non-transmission class customer (<69 kV service voltage), or a transmission class government or non-profit customer.
- Be a building owner or authorized building owner's representative (not a tenant).
- May be either existing buildings or new construction

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.

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

Xcel Energy's Retro-commissioning program covers both recommissioning and retro-commissioning.

Customer Cash Incentives

Cash incentives are offered for all eligible energy efficiency measures. Capital Measures and RCx Measures receive cash incentives based on the following:

- kW Incentive Rate: \$40/kW
- kWh Incentive Rate: \$0.02/kWh

Enroll in the RCx Program today and start reserving your incentives!

**For more information contact:
281-638-7140**