

Kitsap Bank earns \$30k in PSE incentives for saving energy

A case study of PSE's Commercial Strategic Energy Management program

Customer background

Kitsap Bank is a 114-year-old, independent, family-owned bank. With \$1.7 billion in assets, they provide a full range of financial services to commercial and individual clients at 18 locations in six Western Washington counties.

Energy challenges and opportunities

About seven years ago, Kitsap Bank's leadership began asking how they could be better stewards of the electrical energy consumed by their building portfolio. At the time, they were not collecting energy-usage data to determine energy consumption. Yet they suspected they had many opportunities to operate their buildings more efficiently.

They joined PSE's Commercial Strategic Energy Management (CSEM) program in 2016. It was the perfect way to learn how to assess their current energy usage, interpret usage data, and understand how to make changes through low- and no-cost energy-saving measures. They were the first bank to join the CSEM program.

Energy savings at a glance



ELECTRIC SAVINGS 843,641 kWh

That's enough to power 70 homes for a year.



\$30,380



\$84,364

* Metrics are cumulative from Kitsap Bank's start in CSEM in 2016 through 2022.

Before CSEM, we didn't track our energy usage across the organization. We paid the bills and paid the contractors, but we never understood how it holistically affected us. Now we do, and we're continually improving our energy management.

How PSE helped

We began with Kitsap Bank by creating a scope of work, which identified 12 buildings for their CSEM energy portfolio. We discussed energy targets that Kitsap Bank could achieve in exchange for multiyear performance and target incentive amounts.

We performed energy audits at several branches in the Kitsap Bank portfolio, which gave Kitsap Bank the details needed to reach their energy targets through low- and no-cost changes. We also provided a customized checklist and training for Kitsap Bank that walked them through best practices in behavior, operations and maintenance.

Kitsap Bank upgraded to efficient LED lighting throughout their portfolio. They also established a relationship with a local HVAC contractor that works regularly with them on maintenance, schedules and set points. HVAC systems are the largest consumers of energy in most commercial buildings, so regular attention and maintenance are critical for managing energy.

A key CSEM recommendation is to group after-hours activities into a specific HVAC zone to reduce system usage. Kitsap Bank achieved this with their Interactive Teller Machines (ITMs), which allow clients to connect after-hours with a teller via video. The majority of the bank's ITM tellers work in one building.

CSEM funds a fellow from the Climate Corps Fellowship program for every CSEM participant. That's how I initially joined Kitsap Bank. After my fellowship, Kitsap Bank hired me full-time to continue working on energy management. Now we have a new fellow on our sustainability team, which is very strong thanks to support from leadership.

Banu Erdim

Sustainability and ESG analyst for Kitsap Bank

Results

After six years, comprised of two three-year CSEM cohorts, Kitsap Bank has saved 843,641 kilowatt-hours of electricity and more than \$84,000 in energy costs. They exemplify how small changes add up to big savings. The incentives they've earned from PSE, totaling more than \$30,000, have gone back into the organization's investment in energy-efficient upgrades.



Energy consumed by HVAC systems can account for up to a third of total energy consumption in commercial buildings, which is why Kitsap Bank prioritizes routine HVAC service and optimization.



Kitsap Bank's ITMs concentrate tellers providing after-hours customer service into one building, which reduces HVAC and lighting energy usage.

Sustainability and energy management are integral parts of our future. CSEM helped us see how we could produce energy savings and then put our incentives toward producing further energy savings. It's a cycle we're proud to continue with PSE.

Richard Martinez

Senior vice president, director of municipal & specialty banking for Kitsap Bank

Start your energy-management journey

Learn more about PSE's Commercial Strategic Energy Management program at pse.com/csem. Or get in touch with the program directly by emailing csem@pse.com.

