Monitoring-Based Commissioning (MBCx): An Early Success Story for the California Green Building Initiative

University of California / California State University
Pacific Gas & Electric/Southern California Gas/San Diego Gas & Electric/Southern California Edison

- Permanent monitoring systems expand scope and energy use reduction for retro-commissioning, increase persistence of savings, and enable ongoing commissioning.
- Benchmarks obtained through monitoring facilitate energy management and continuous improvement in MBCx program deployment.
- Facility staff trained in enhanced operations and maintenance as well as monitoring.
- Based on a decade of RD&D and groundbreaking efforts by the program partners, the CEC PIER Program, SMUD, and pioneering university campuses across the country.

2004-05 Program Scope: 37 building projects (half labs) and 9 plant projects on 25 campuses

\$5.2 million funding

Portfolio targets of 1.0 MW, 9.3 million kWh/year, 580,000 therms/year 3.6 year simple payback period on funding @ \$0.093/kWh & \$1.00/therm

2004-05 Program Results: Projects reporting to-date on initial commissioning achieved 138% of

targets (34% of funding produced 47% of targeted savings)

10% average energy use reduction (cost basis) from initial commissioning Identified potential for program improvement (e.g. better project design)

Potential Scaling: 2006-08 UC/CSU/IOU effort doubling activity to reach 15% of floor area

Community colleges, private colleges and universities

K-12 schools

Other institutional buildings

Hospitals, medical facilities, & other commercial buildings with lab space

Other commercial facilities

References: Karl Brown

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