
Partners in Energy

Q&A with an Energy Expert

Retail Businesses
February 25, 2021



AGENDA

Introductions	5 minutes
Centennial Energy Action Plan	5 minutes
Energy Efficiency for Your Business	10 minutes
Q&A	45 minutes

CENTENNIAL'S ENERGY ACTION PLAN

Vision

The City of Centennial will create a resilient future for its residents and businesses through improved energy efficiency, enhanced connectivity, education, and cost savings.

Goals

- Help residents **save money** through energy efficiency programs and rebates.
- Connect businesses with **free and low-cost** energy efficiency programs.
- Ensure community facilities are **running efficiently** and taking advantage of rebate opportunities.

BUSINESSES

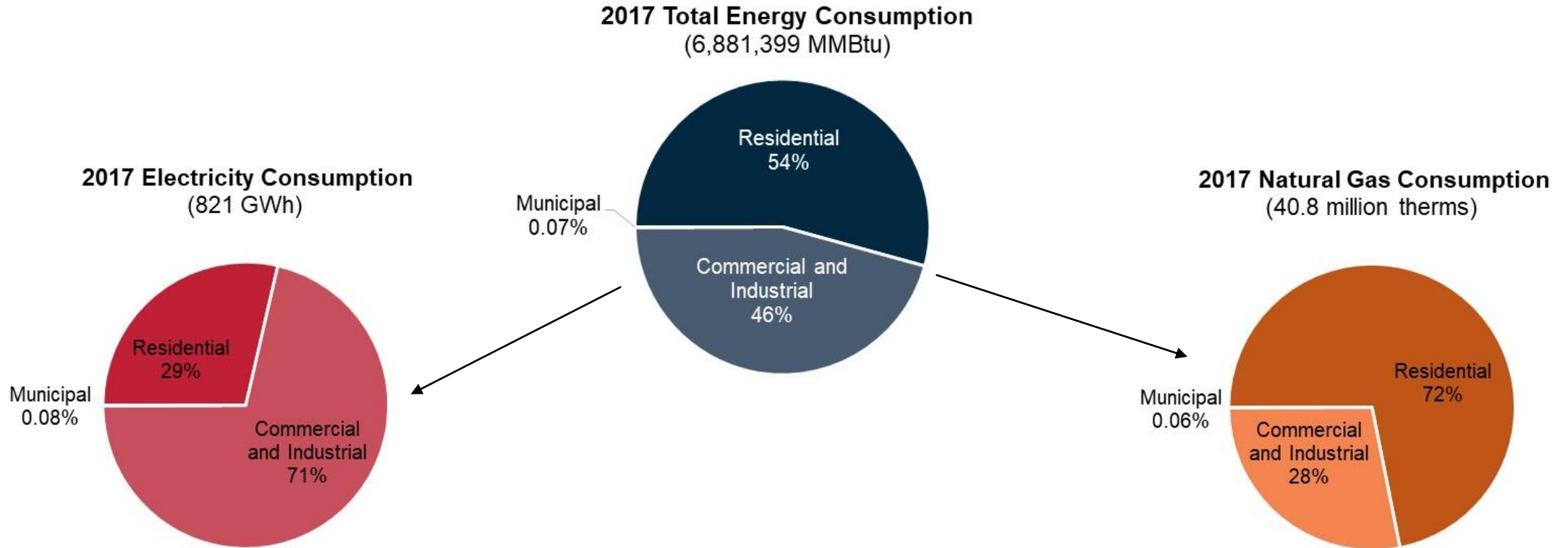
Strategies

- Outreach to different business types and sectors about energy efficiency programs and rebates
- Information about new construction programs
- Building connections with financing tools

Benefits

- Connect businesses with low and no-cost resources
- Help reduce operating and maintenance costs
- Improve access to tools and programs to help with design and financing of improvements
- Support workforce in the energy industry

CENTENNIAL'S ENERGY BASELINE

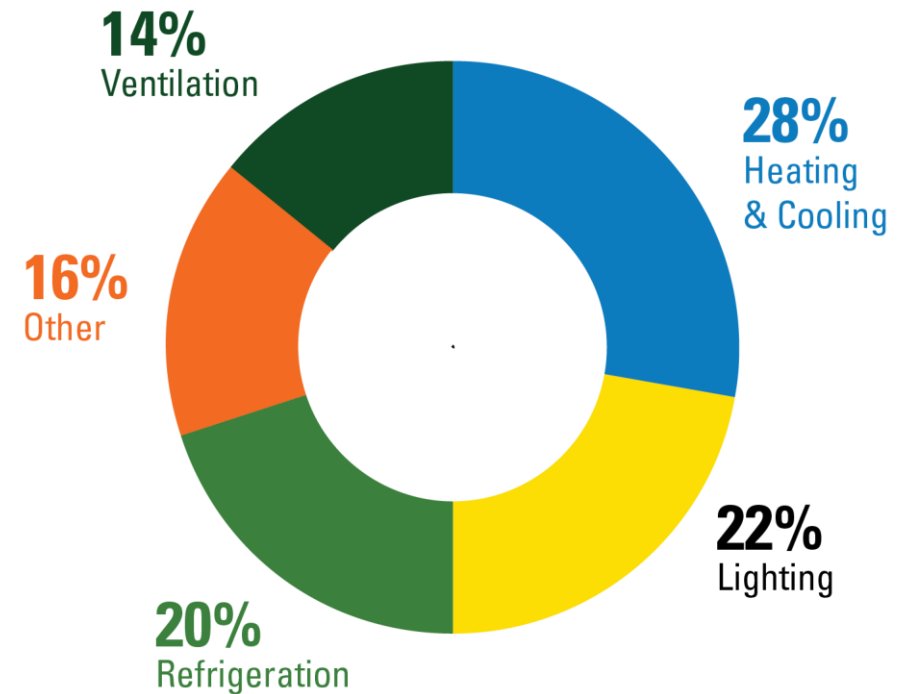


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WHY ENERGY EFFICIENCY?

- Reduce operating and maintenance costs
 - Don't wait – spend now to save later
- Increase employee productivity
- Improve customer experience
- Increase building value

Average Retail Business Energy Use:



Source: CBEC Data 2012

ON-SITE ENERGY AUDIT

- **FREE** through March 31, 2021
 - Value up to \$2,700
- Includes audit of lighting systems, heating & cooling systems, motors & drives compressed air, and commercial refrigeration
- Personalized recommendations for energy conservation opportunities
 - Costs, savings, payback
 - Available Xcel Energy rebates
- Businesses with peak demand less than 100 kW may qualify to receive free energy-saving products at the time of the audit!
- COVID Practices: Auditors follow CDC safety protocols, including limited interaction, facemasks, and extra cleanliness. There's also a remote option if you prefer!



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FAQ ABOUT ENERGY AUDITS

■ What information will I get with the audit?

- The ASHRAE Level 1 audit will provide a review of your energy bills for at least 1 year to understand energy use over time. The auditor will also conduct an on-site (or remote) audit of the primary energy users in your building.
- The report will provide an energy bill analysis, highlighting any anomalies in current electric and/or natural gas consumption trends, cost-effective equipment upgrade recommendations and payback analysis information on other energy conservation opportunities such as building improvements and behavioral changes.
- A sample audit report can be viewed on [Centennial's Energy Action for Businesses](#) site under "More Resources"

■ I just moved into a new space and my energy bills seem really high. Is an audit right for me?

- The audit will still provide the on-site (or remote) review of the building, systems, and upgrade recommendations for changes to these, however it will not include the energy bill analysis, as we need a minimum of 1-year of data.



FAQ ABOUT ENERGY AUDITS

- **I don't own the building/unit my business occupies. Is an energy audit right for me?**
 - The audit can still provide valuable information about your energy use over time (with a minimum of 1-year of energy bill data) and ways you can reduce your energy use. However, we recommend discussing opportunities for larger upgrades with your property manager or landlord to find mutually beneficial ways to make upgrades.
- **I own the building/unit but rent it out to 1 or more businesses. Is an energy audit right for me?**
 - Yes, the audit is a great way to plan and budget for pressing and future energy efficient capital improvements. You can sign your entire building up for the audit, but note, Xcel Energy takes customer data privacy very seriously. Many tenants are responsible for their own utility accounts and bills which makes the bill analysis section a little tricky, but most certainly not impossible. Some additional paperwork may be required in order to ensure your tenants approve of having their space audited and their Xcel Energy billed consumption data shared with you.



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HOW TO SIGN UP FOR AN ENERGY AUDIT

- Call **855.839.8862** to schedule your FREE energy audit
- Visit [Xcel Energy's Energy Analysis webpage](#) for more information

HEATING & COOLING QUICK TIPS



- Turn up (or down) your thermostat 7-10 degrees when closed, 1-2 degrees when open
- Install a programmable or smart thermostat that is compatible with your HVAC system
- Make sure your HVAC controls are adjusted correctly (consult a licensed technician if unsure)
- Make sure AC unit is clear of debris
- Check your pipe insulation for uninsulated or damaged insulation on hot water pipes
- Check your weather stripping and replace if old or damaged

LIGHTING QUICK TIPS

- Train staff to turn off lights when they are not needed and as part of closing procedures
- Replace old and inefficient lighting with LEDs
- Install timers or photocells on exterior lights
- Install occupancy sensors to turn off lights when no one is in the area



REFRIGERATION, VENTILATION, OTHER QUICK TIPS

- Regularly clean cooling coils on refrigeration units, change equipment filters, and keep furnace, ceiling and portable fans clean
- Buy ENERGY STAR® appliances
- Get rid of old refrigerators and freezers
- Manage plug loads from electronics with power strips, timers, and employee education
- Activate power management features on all computers



Q&A



CONTACT INFORMATION

- Wyatt Peterson, City of Centennial – wpeterson@centennialco.gov
- Xcel Energy Business Solutions Center – 855-839-8862 or energyefficiency@xcelenergy.com
- Centennial Energy Website – www.centennialco.gov/energy
- Xcel Energy Business Programs – www.xcelenergy.com/business

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION



FINANCING OPTIONS



- County must opt-in
 - Weld & Mesa counties opted-out, see www.copace.com/participatingcounties
- Financing program for energy efficiency and renewable energy projects
 - Upgrades or new construction
 - Engineering studies and audits also eligible
- Loan repayment through special tax assessment on property
 - Repayment obligation on building owner
- Goal: Positive Cash Flow
 - Energy savings are greater than PACE payments
- For more information and case studies visit www.copace.com



FINANCING OPTIONS

Xcel Energy's Energy Efficiency Financing for Business

- Through HBC Energy Capital, a division of the National Energy Improvement Fund (NEIF)
- Easy to follow online process
- NEIF selects best possible rates from multiple lenders
- NEIF staff provides support through project installation
- Couple financing with other Xcel Energy rebates

Visit hbcenergycapital.com/programs/xcelenergy

Case Study – Green Mountain ACE Hardware Lighting Upgrades

Project	High efficiency LED lighting
Project Cost	\$81,000
Xcel Energy rebate	\$22,400
Payback term	5.1 years
Monthly savings	\$1,330
Monthly payment (5-yr loan)	\$1,183
Net monthly positive cash flow	\$147



RENEWABLE ENERGY OPTIONS – ON SITE

- Solar*Rewards®
 - Install solar & produce your own energy
 - Monthly energy use offset by solar **plus** a credit per kWh generated
 - Contributes to Xcel Energy's clean energy goals
 - Up to 20-year contract

- Net-Metering
 - Install solar & produce your own energy
 - Monthly energy use offset by solar **plus** bill credit for excess
 - Contributes to your clean energy goals



RENEWABLE ENERGY OPTIONS - SUBSCRIPTION

- Windsource®
 - Subscription fee applied to bill
 - \$1.50 per 100 kWh block
 - Can subscribe to 100% of energy use
 - Contributes to your clean energy goals

- Solar*Rewards Community®
 - Subscription fee from third-party solar garden
 - Bill credit for solar energy you subscribe to
 - Up to 20-year contract
 - Contributes to Xcel Energy's clean energy goals

