CUSTOMER PROFILE: Providence Regional Medical Center (PRMC)

Cost Savings: $525,000/yr. (7.5 million kWh)

Providence Health & Services has provided care for Northwest communities for more than 100 years. The new medical tower at its Colby campus is the largest capital investment ever made by Providence.

In 2011, Providence opened its new 12-story, 680,000-square-foot medical center, which is expected to achieve the highest level of energy savings of any of its 27 hospitals in the Western United States. The project is part of a larger system-wide effort by Providence to increase energy efficiency at all of its sites. The project is also one of the PUD’s largest energy-efficiency projects.

The PUD worked collaboratively with Providence and its design team during the initial design phase to identify a range of cost-effective measures for the new PRMC. The combined efforts resulted in 12 energy-efficient design features. Coupled with the PUD incentives, the final project included:

- Variable-speed chillers
- Variable-flow chilled water distribution systems
- Low-pressure duct work
- Pressure-independent control valves
- Energy-efficient lighting and controls

High-efficiency buildings bring numerous benefits for owners, businesses and the community at large. Beyond the actual energy savings and lower utility bills, improved designs reduce environmental impacts, lower operating costs, create more comfortable work settings and help minimize the need for utilities to tap new, more-costly energy sources. Such facilities keep hospitals competitive and align with their mission of improving health and quality of life.

The efficiency measures will pay off for Providence, the PUD and all customers for many years.

To find out how PUD energy professionals can assist you in identifying and managing your next energy project, please contact us today.