

The Peoples Gas and North Shore Gas Natural Gas Savings Programs
Commercial & Industrial Rebates

CASE STUDY

CUSTOMER

Roquette America, Gurnee, IL

PROJECT

Heat Recovery System

REBATE AMOUNT

\$216,910

ENERGY SAVINGS

122,548 therms





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-Steve Calewarts, Plant Manager

Customer Background

For the past 75 years, Roquette has been an international leader in the production of starch, starch derivatives and polyols. Roquette America – Gurnee, a local industrial facility of the Roquette Group, is one of two facilities producing a naturally-derived substance known as sorbitol. The sorbitol produced at Roquette is used as a sweetener and compression agent in sugar-free confectionery such as chewing gum, pan coating and tablets.

Project Description

For almost two years, Roquette America – Corporate has been requesting all regional in-house staff to form and manage energy teams to become a more sustainable company. The purpose of the energy teams is to develop and implement energy savings projects with the goal of reducing, controlling and managing energy costs.

Forest Brooks, maintenance and project coordinator for Roquette America - Gurnee, enlisted the North Shore Gas Natural Gas Savings Program team to serve as an extension of their energy team. The goal was to implement a project that had previously been denied due to not meeting the company's standard payback of less than three years. The project involved recovering previously exhausted hot, desiccant air to recycle it back into the process stream.

The North Shore Gas Natural Gas Savings Program team managed this project through the Commercial & Industrial Competitive Bid Program, a request-for-proposal initiative that gave Roquette the opportunity to propose a rebate amount which reduced their payback from five years to two years. With customer guidance, the program team successfully took the lead on preparing applications, verifying energy savings and submitting the project for rebate approval.

Project Team

- Steve Calewarts, Plant Manager, Roquette America
- Forest Brooks, Maintenance and Project Coordinator, Roquette America
- Dan McGowan, Account Executive, North Shore Gas
- Greg Walthers, Energy Advisor, North Shore Gas Natural Gas Savings Program
- Rick Pettibone, Senior Energy Advisor, North Shore Gas Natural Gas Savings Program

Impact

Roquette's energy team was successful in receiving the funding needed to complete the heat recovery system project.

"With the program team's help, we were able to take a project that had been sitting on my desk for almost three years and get the approval to make it happen," said Brooks.

Steve Calewarts, plant manager at Roquette added, "We are already making way for our next energy saving project with the team. Our next project is almost double in capital expense, and only took me 15 minutes to get funding approval from corporate thanks to the North Shore Gas Natural Gas Savings Program team."

The Peoples Gas and North Shore Gas Natural Gas Savings Programs team is available to help you capture similar savings at your business. Call 855-849-8928 today to schedule a facility assessment with one of our energy experts.

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