

Retro-Commissioning Case Study



Ben E. Keith Co.



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About the company

Ben E. Keith Co. is a broadline food service distributor located throughout the United States, primarily in the south, operating 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Their building in New Mexico was built just a few years ago in 2021, however, some equipment and processes were identified as opportunities for improved efficiency.

Ben E. Keith was a previous participant in the PNM Business Energy Efficiency Programs and adopted a continuous improvement approach to save energy. This time, a retro-commissioning assessment was performed to focus on the ammonia refrigeration system. It identified efficiency opportunities such as setpoint adjustments, VFD modifications, and permanent LED dimming. Eager to get started, they set a 3-6-month timeframe to complete the project, and with minimal training, integrated the recommendations seamlessly within the facility's existing processes. Following the efficiency improvements, the facility saw a 20% reduction in energy use.

Why improve energy efficiency?

- 1 Cuts operating costs and improves profitability.
- 2 Reduces maintenance demands.
- 3 Improves worker productivity, occupant health and safety.
- 4 Distinguishes your business as being eco-friendly or "green."
- 5 Allows energy savings to finance business growth.

Project financials

Project Cost:	\$33,846
PNM Rebate:	\$16,923
Annual Energy Savings:	694,502 kWh
Annual Utility Cost Savings:	\$55,458
Annual CO ₂ Savings:	485 metric tons
Project Duration:	<1 year
Year Completed:	2023
Estimated Payback:	<1 year

Additional benefits

The retro-commissioning project is expected to keep the ammonia system running efficiently, with less chance of mechanical failure, which equates to less need for servicing. Plus, the remote monitoring function ensures they can keep an eye on runtime from afar. Ben E. Keith Co. recommends this program to other businesses and says that understanding your energy consumption is the first step when looking for opportunities to reduce use and save money.

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