

Agricultural Pumping Efficiency Program



Helping California...

"Programs like these really make sense for California," – Mike McGrath, Water Systems Supervisor, Rancho California Water District

PROJECT SUMMARY

Client: Rancho California
Temecula, California
Mike McGrath, Water Systems Supervisor

Utility: SCG / Natural Gas

Project: Retrofit natural gas pumping plants to increase overall pumping plant efficiency

Contractor: Self; Pumps purchased from Goulds Pumps, ITT Industry

Project Cost: \$50,000

Incentive Grant from Agricultural Pumping Efficiency Program: \$24,000

Annual dollar/energy savings: \$60,000 / 100,000 therms

Increase in Water Flow: 1,389 gpm on average

Simple Payback: 7 months (at current therm pricing)

Contact the Agricultural Pumping Efficiency Program at (800) 845-6038 for information on how we can help your water district save money and energy.

What They Say About the Ag Pumping Efficiency Program...

Situated near the historic town of Temecula in the southern end of the Hemet valley, Rancho California Water District was formed in the mid-60's to provide for a balanced residential, commercial, and agricultural community. Serving one of the fastest growing areas in Southern California, the district has nearly 700 miles of pipelines, reservoirs capable of storing 120 million gallons of water, 60 water wells, and 35 pump stations capable of moving 72,000 gallons of water per minute.

Naturally, meeting the needs of its growing customer population requires a lot of electric and natural gas energy. The district turned to its tester, Jon Lee of Pump Check, to determine whether its natural gas engine pumps were moving water at their peak efficiency. Jon tested the equipment and performed a cost-benefit analysis for the District.

"The pumps overall weren't in terrible shape," observed Mike McGrath, water systems supervisor of the District. "They were still moving water and doing their jobs. But there were some pumps that were starting to drop off. Since these pumps use so much gas, the cost analysis showed that we could pay for the pump repairs in less than a year just from the gas savings."

The District invested about \$50,000 in money and labor to repair the pumps, but the savings resulted in about \$60,000 per year in gas cost reductions. Also, because of the improvements, the Agricultural Pumping Efficiency Program was able to provide about \$24,000 in incentive rebates towards the projects.

Through the implementation of these repairs, Rancho California has been able to control its operating costs in a situation where natural gas prices have been escalating. "Programs like these really make sense for California," added Mike. "They encourage us to repair pumps and save our limited resources. If we hadn't been keeping an eye on the bottom line, this energy cost would have been passed on to someone."

