

0800 SAVE ENERGY is a designated provider for the Electricity Commission's Energy Efficiency Programme and arranged funding and support to enable this project to proceed.

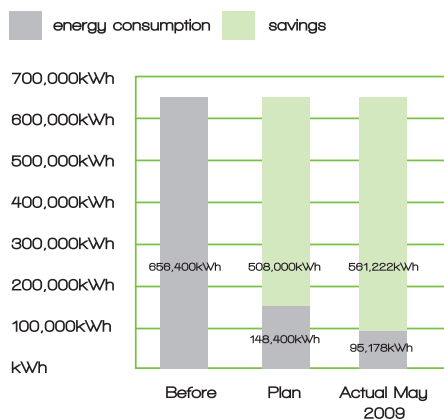
Switch to smarter lighting exceeds expectations

Significant energy savings have been recorded by the Auckland Regional Council (ARC) after switching to New Zealand-designed, ultra-efficient lighting in its central city offices earlier this year.

Savings of around \$120,000 a year were expected when the council made the switch in March this year, however savings of over 85.5 per cent (or \$128,626) have been identified. The savings will speed up the repayment of the loan.

"The new lighting system is consuming only 14.5 per cent of the energy used by the old system and is 35 per cent better than planned," says Councillor Bill Burrill, chairman of the Finance Committee.

Energy Savings (kWh) per annum



"This early success indicates that the cost savings and reduction in the council's carbon footprint could exceed our initial expectations.

"The payback of the new lighting system is two fold - the council's spending on electricity and maintenance is reduced and our annual carbon footprint is steadily reducing.

The ARC is leading by example and acting on its commitment to energy efficiency and emissions reduction," says Cr Burrill.

It is now estimated that the new ultra-efficient light fittings and a sensor system will reduce the ARC's corporate carbon footprint annually by 391 tonnes and cut its electricity use by 561,222 kWh or 22 per cent.

The lighting upgrade was awarded a grant from the Electricity Commission's commercial sector electricity efficiency programme and a loan from the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Authority to fund the project.

From ARC media release, 22 May 2009



ARC Headquarters, 21 Pitt Street, Auckland CBD



CO² emissions
391 tonnes



electricity usage
561,222 kWh p.a



operating costs
\$128,626 p.a

Limited funding is still available for energy efficiency projects that meet the Commission's criteria and can be completed by June 30th 2010



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