

CitySmart
SUBMISSION:
Energex proposal
for the 2015-20
regulatory control
period

29 January 2015



CITYSMART
Brisbane City Council's Sustainability Agency

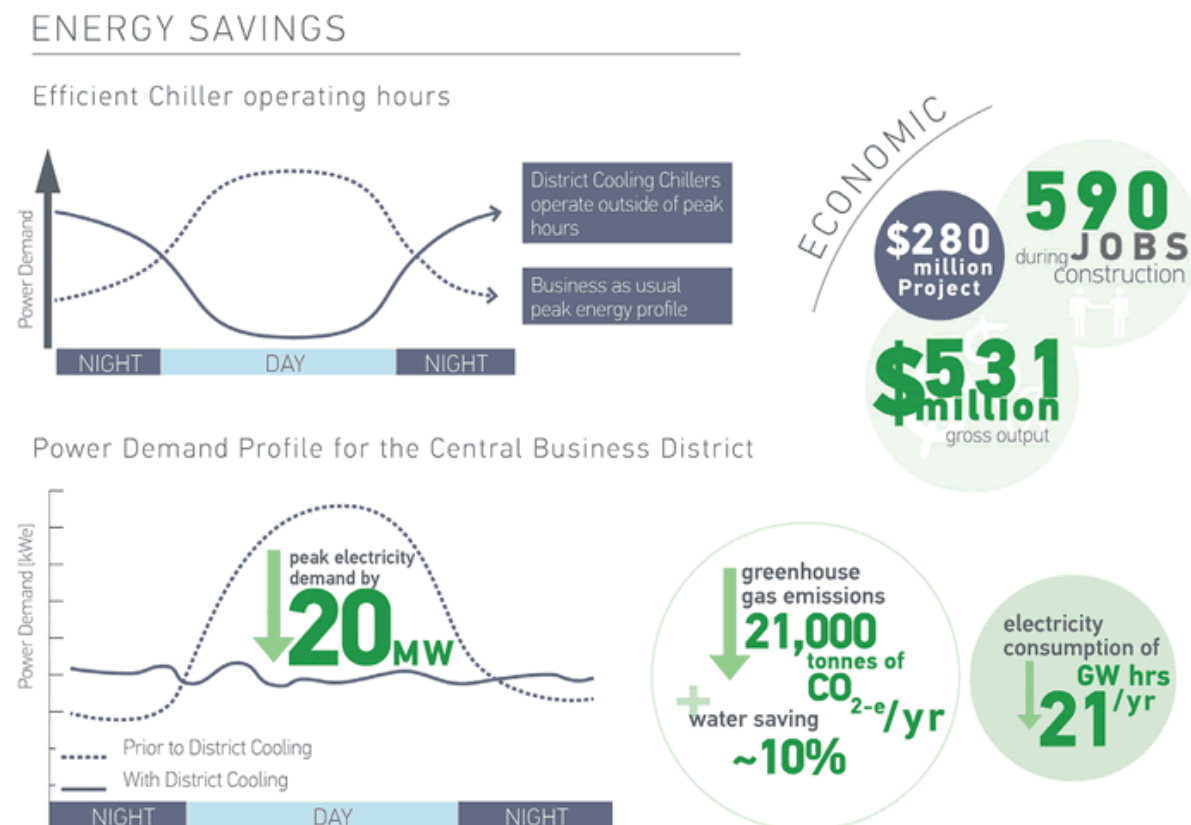
CitySmart is Brisbane City Council's sustainability agency tasked with creating a sustainable future for Brisbane. CitySmart delivers innovative projects through collaboration, employing new commercial approaches to proven technologies and achieving sustainability outcomes for business and residents without compromising commercial imperative. CitySmart works with more than 40 industry partners to design and deliver innovative sustainable projects with environmental and economic benefits.

CITYSMART ENERGEX PARTNERSHIP PROJECTS

Energex has been a CitySmart foundation partner for five years, enabling CitySmart to commercialise several key energy efficiency and demand management projects, outlined below. Without Energex's partnership and Demand Management program investment, many of these technologies and programs would not have been developed.

The key CitySmart-Energex partnership project that received Demand Management program funding is the **CBD Smart Energy** project that focused on the development of a Brisbane district cooling system. Without the Demand Management program funding invested in the assessment of this alternate technology and its feasibility for the proposed precinct, the project would not have proceeded to procurement and a private sector company would not have been appointed to fund and develop the system, an Australian first for a central business district. Initial feasibility on the Brisbane system estimates a permanent 20MW peak demand load saving across the CBD once the system is established with thermal storage and off peak cooling production.

Figure 1: Brisbane CBD Smart Energy Project Feasibility Infogram



The **Watt Savers** small business energy saving program promotes energy efficiency to time poor businesses in the Brisbane area. Energex's Demand Management was a key contributor to the program promoting their Positive Payback Program. Watt Savers has engaged 350 participants with eight small businesses receiving Positive Payback funding to date.

CitySmart and Energex have also partnered to deliver residential based energy efficiency programs engaging residents through behaviour change techniques and distribution of energy efficiency products. These programs help engage large numbers of residents and create scale for consumption and demand savings to be implemented on a large distributed scale. These programs include:

1. **Reduce Your Juice:** an energy efficiency program aimed at low income, young adult renters in Brisbane. Split incentives are a key issue faced by renters and landlords. Rebates provided by Energex's Demand Management Positive Payback Program will help reduce the gap of split incentives, enabling capital upgrades or tariff switching to be carried out which will have a positive effect on energy consumption.
2. **EzyGreen Residential Program:** Engaging over 59,000 Brisbane residents CitySmart has been able to promote, amongst other demand management initiatives, Energex's Energy Conservation Communities Program which has retrofitted 13,000 air-conditioning control devices in over 10,000 homes across multiple targeted areas, further demonstrating strong acceptance for air-conditioning DM programs.

CONCLUSION

Brisbane's CBD and inner city is set to grow over the next few decades with new high-rise buildings under development in the CBD and new precincts planned for Kurilpa and Hamilton. The key challenge for the urbanisation of south east Queensland is the availability of utilities to service this population change. The population growth will come with increased peak demand and energy growth.

CitySmart views Energex's Demand Management programs as the key source of education and funding for the delivery of solutions to reduce costs for Brisbane businesses and residents. In addition, its funding of projects which support the development and implementation of emerging technologies, such as the Brisbane CBD Smart Energy project, is crucial to ensure maximum mutual benefit is derived from these technologies in the long term for Brisbane.

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