

Texas -- A Decade in Review:

Highlights of GESPC Successes from program to projects

🖒 Like us on Facebook

2019

October 26, 2019 -- The ESC announced in 2020 the 9th Annual Market Transformation Conference will be held in Austin, Texas. Stay tuned for more announcements, and remember, this conference is designed for you!

See ya' in Texas.

August 24, 2019 -- Fred Yebra, the Texas ESC Chapter Public Sector Chair, was named the 2019 ESC Doug Dahle Public Sector Award recipient.



Pictured (1 to r) David Terry (ESC President), Jim Arwood (ESC Executive Director) and Fred Yebra (Texas State Energy Conservation Office). Photo by Julie Chesna, Energy

Media Services.

February 13, 2019 -- The Texas ESC Chapter held an organizational meeting to reboot its ESC Chapter on February 13. The Chapter meeting was open to all interested parties and at the conclusion those in attendance were asked to join the ESC. Response was immediate and overwhelming with the Chapter growing to 76 members within the first month.

The nomination of candidates for the Texas chapter took place March 1. Following the member-voting period, which closed March 18, 2019 the results were announced and the newly elected officers of the Texas chapter Energy Services Coalition include:

Private Sector Co-chair: Vince Drieling Chapter Secretary: Jennifer Lancaster Chapter Treasurer: Dylan Gaisford Conference/Workshop: Devin Castleton Communications: Cassidy Ellis Public Sector Co-Chair is Fred Yebra

2018

October 23, 2018 -- San Felipe Del Rio Consolidated Independent School District (CISD), located in Del Rio, Texas, has partnered with Schneider Electric on a GESPC that will reduce its utility consumption by 35 percent, with guaranteed savings of \$25 million over the course of the 20-year project. San Felipe Del Rio CISD is strategically addressing challenges associated with deferred maintenance and increasing energy consumption and operational costs from its aging mechanical and electrical distribution systems. Renovations will be made to 20 buildings throughout the district, 15 of which are schools. Construction is underway and is scheduled to be complete by spring 2020.

August 7, 2018 — August 7, 2018 - The city of Abilene is addressing its aging facility infrastructure that does not comply with the most current energy standards as part of Phase III GESPC with Schneider Electric. The project will be a Phase III of the original GESPC with Schneider that was implemented a decade ago. In 2008, the city hired Schneider to provide energy efficiency upgrades to 34 facilities. The project focused primarily on building automation systems for HVAC and lighting system upgrades, as well as some mechanical system replacements. Phase 1 of the project cost \$9.06 million. The city then came back and performed a Phase III project at the Abilene Convention Center in 2012 for \$1.51 million. The proposed Phase III project will targets selected buildings and/or systems.

The project will use the Performance Contract Legislation 2166.406, also known as Energy Savings Performance Contracts for local governments. According to Texas local government code Chapter 302, an energy savings performance contract is a contract between a local government and a provider for energy or water conservation or usage in which the estimated energy savings, utility cost savings, increase in billable revenues, or increase in meter accuracy resulting from the measures is subject to guarantee to offset the cost of the energy or water conservation or usage measures over a specified period of time.

June 15, 2018 — Harlingen Valley International Airport has entered a new phase of a GESPC with Schneider Electric. In total, the multi-phase project will deliver an estimated \$1.58 million in savings and reduce the airport's annual utility expenses by 38 percent during the 15-year contract. The first phase of Valley International Airport GESPC began in 2005, with the replacement of the airport's existing building automation system and lighting fixtures. The first phase delivered \$1.1 million in guaranteed savings. A third phase of the project will begin in late 2018.

2017

April 1, 2017 -- Point Isabel Independent School District's GESPC project was honored with the Lasting Legacy Award, given by Schneider Electric. The award recognizes a top-performing public partner in the state for demonstrating leadership and commitment to energy initiatives that have procured sustained impacts over time.

The school district pursued the GESPC as part of a long-term economic growth and sustainability plan after recognizing a long list of deferred maintenance projects due to tight budgets and rising utility costs. According to the district, the project will generate over \$4.5 million in guaranteed energy savings over the life of the project. The project is expected to reduce the Point Isabel Independent School District's annual energy cost by 36 percent, saving on average \$225,319. The project is also good for the local economy with a total economic impact of \$9.6 million, including 34 new jobs, \$4.8 million in additional business revenue and \$188,258 in state and local tax revenue.

2016

February 16, 2016 -- With a \$1.5 million loan, the Hidalgo school board plans to install energy-efficient lights and a new air conditioning system at local schools. The district will borrow money through the State Energy Conservation Office's LoanSTAR program, according to a news release from the Comptroller's Office. The school district will repay the 10-year loan gradually with savings from lower electricity bills as part of a GESPC..

2015

October 6, 2015 -- The Water Environment Research Foundation (WERF) recognized the City of Fort Worth's Village Creek Water Reclamation Facility (VCWRF) with its Award for Excellence in Innovation for the implementation of a series of sustainable facility upgrades. VCWRF executed a \$35-million 12.5 year GESPC with the goal of energy neutrality through improving electrical facilities, converting some processes to alternative energy sources, and improving methane gas production. To date, this project has reduced electrical consumption by an additional 39 percent, allowing VCWRF to meet up to 75 percent of its energy demand. The reduced electrical consumption has also lowered the facility's carbon footprint by nearly 58,000 metric tons of greenhouse gas emissions. The contract is guaranteed to reduce electrical cost by approximately \$2.5 million annually.

September 1, 2015 -- New bills passed by the Texas Legislature are now in effect. This includes HB 1184: Relating to authorizing certain utility cost savings and alternative fuel programs as eligible for local government energy savings performance contracts This bill amends the Local Government Code to expand coverage of the energy savings performance contract provision, which allows local governments to finance contracts to install more efficient systems through a guarantee of future savings, to include alternative fuel programs for fleet vehicles and programs resulting in utility cost savings.

2014

March 12, 2014 -- The city of Clute signed a \$5.7 million GESPC that includes lighting and water metering, as well as the installation of a new wastewater treatment plant. Clute's existing metering system has numerous inefficiencies amounting to more than \$250,000 per year in lost water revenue. In addition to the meter replacement, the new wastewater treatment plant is projected to save the city 57 percent annually in energy costs.

May 26, 2013 -- Texas SB 533 was approved May 24th. The bill amended guidelines for energy savings performance contracting. The bill's language provides new guidance for the review of cost savings to state agencies and institutions of higher education under energy savings performance contracts.

January 9, 2013 -- Building on its record energy efficiency, Austin Energy has entered into a GESPC on a \$5.2 million budget-neutral Domain District Cooling Plant project. The contract includes the installation of a new chilled water storage system to reduce the plant's peak electricity usage by shifting the chilled water load and associated electric consumption from on-peak to off-peak hours. The upgraded system will be comprised of a 2.4 million gallon concrete thermal energy storage (TES) tank, whose circulation will be maintained by three 200 horsepower horizontal split case pumps controlled by variable frequency drives.

2012

September 6, 2012 -- Jesse Dillard, City of Dallas, reported the city's goal was to implement electric, gas, and water saving measures without traditional capital funds. Dallas' first GESPC in 2001 targeted traffic lights, in 2003 City Hall, in 2005 Love Field and the Convention Center, in 2006 water meters, in 2007 the city's museum, in 2008 a bio gas project at the water plant, and in 2012 a solar project is pending. All projects have exceeded 30 percent energy savings - some achieving 40 to 50 percent savings.

2011

December 11, 2011 -- The City of Tyler replaced more than 31,000 water meters as part of an ESPC project in 2001. The project has saved on average more than \$500,000/yr more than financing cost. The project will be paid off in 2013 -- meaning the City will save more than \$2 million a year -- each and every year going forward.



2001 GESPC in Tyler, Texas

Energy Services Coalition | www.energyservicescoalition.org