



# COMMERCIAL & INDUSTRIAL SOLUTIONS PROGRAM

## CASE STUDY:

### CUMMINS CONSTRUCTION COMPANY



#### PROJECT AT A GLANCE

**\$42,446**

Incentive paid

**\$27,326**

Estimated annual cost savings

**47,278**

Estimated annual therm savings

**100%**

Project costs covered

#### The situation

If you've driven on an Oklahoma highway, there's a good chance that Cummins Construction Company had something to do with it. The general contractor, long known for high-quality asphalt paving, has helped build and maintain a large percentage of the highways in Oklahoma for more than 65 years.

Recently, the company worked with the CenterPoint Energy Commercial & Industrial Solutions Program to improve the energy efficiency and safety of its manufacturing facility's kiln, hot oil and dust collection systems.

#### The project

A dust collector improves air quality by capturing airborne dust and other impurities released from industrial processes. Because its fan motors must be able to move high volumes of air, adding a variable frequency drive to the motor can significantly improve the system's energy efficiency by reducing overall airflow rates, heat loss, and wear and tear on the equipment.

Program engineers worked with the Cummins Construction team to retrofit the facility's dust collector system with a VFD to improve the system at their facility. The facility's kiln and hot oil system also received insulation improvements, further reducing heat loss while helping to protect employees from potential burn and fire hazards.

#### The results

Cummins Construction received \$42,446 in CenterPoint Energy incentives, covering 100 percent of the project costs. On top of the incentive, the facility is now saving 47,278 therms of natural gas each year, cutting their annual energy costs by \$27,326.

"The insulation cut the hours that our heater runs nearly in half," said Norman Spence, Facility Manager at Cummins Construction. "The VFD has also helped us run our burner fuel valve at about 15 percent lower and slow the fan down at lower production rates. It's a win-all-the-way situation."

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