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San Diego Training Commands Reduce Energy Costs During 'Do Watts Right' Campaign

SAN DIEGO – Training Support Center, San Diego (TSCSD) announced the results of their six-month pilot 'Do Watts Right' energy reduction campaign Dec. 10, a competition between local Naval Education and Training Command (NETC) activities.

The campaign resulted in an overall savings of nearly \$95,000 and a four percent reduction in total energy usage compared to May through October of last year. During the pilot program, total energy usage was monitored for sixteen buildings among three campuses supported by TSCSD on board Naval Bases San Diego, Coronado, and Point Loma, Calif.

"The four percent average reduction is a little less than we had hoped for, but that still amounts to almost \$100K in utility bill savings," said Julie Lee, TSCSD facilities director. "Had it not been for the uncommonly hot summer and fall we had this year, I believe that savings would have been much higher."

Lee noted that the pilot program was developed by Naval Base San Diego Public Works Department's Energy Team for TSCSD and supported commands to serve as a testing ground for possible base-wide implementation at regional installations. The pilot's goal is to cut down on the utility costs for Navy Region Southwest by promoting efficient energy use.

"The program encourages service members and civilians alike to curb wasteful energy behavior through visual reminders in all spaces, and each building has Sailors who serve as 'energy champions' who promote and

monitor efficient energy use," said Lee. "Personnel in each building work as teams to encouraging changes in energy habits, such as turning off computers and lights at the end of the workday."

To promote the program and raise awareness about energy conservation, TSC turned the campaign into a competition between the three campuses to see which buildings and commands could reduce overall energy consumption by the greatest percentage.

Energy saving bragging rights were ultimately earned by the San Diego training campus, where energy usage was reduced by nearly \$68,000 or 4 percent from last year. Point Loma's Building 52, which houses the Fleet Anti-Submarine Warfare Training Center (FLEASWTRACEN), won the individual building competition by reducing energy use by 11 percent over the previous year.

Chief Sonar Technician (Surface) Letisha Chase, FLEASWTRACEN Green Committee leader said that energy Conservation is an all-hands evolution.

"We took numerous measures to save energy, including providing training and a social awareness video at command GMT," said Chase, "Our personnel changed their energy habits by making sure non-essential lights were turned off, securing electronics such as computers and lab equipment if no one was in the space, shutting down desktop computers and monitors outside of working hours, shutting down A/C unit air compressors on weekends and holidays, and having departmental duty personnel check all spaces at the end of the work day for energy reduction compliance."

As a result of the financial success of the 2014 'Do Watts Right' pilot, TSC is in the early planning stages of bringing back the program for NETC commands next year.

"If the region promoted this campaign to local commands, even a four percent average energy use reduction would easily save over one million dollars in utility bills annually," added Lee.

For information about TSC San Diego visit <http://www.netc.navy.mil/centers/tscsd/Default.aspx>.

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Story by Ensign Blake Bumpous, Training Support Center, San Diego