



With more than 135 years of service, St. Anthony's Memorial Hospital in Effingham, Illinois, has a long legacy of compassionate care. And because they care about the environment, too, St. Anthony's sought a simple remedy for energy waste: LED exit signs.

After hearing about Ameren Illinois' Act On Energy® incentives for energy efficiency projects, Dennis Baker, Plant Services Manager, saw an opportunity to bring the hospital's exit signs up to the newest standard in efficient lighting technology.

In the summer of 2009, he applied for an Act On Energy incentive to purchase 90 LED exit signs. Ameren Illinois approved the project, granting St. Anthony's \$1,800 in incentives. Hospital maintenance staff completed the work a few weeks later, replacing a variety of exit signs—some up to 50 years old—with new LED signs.

Ultimately, the Act On Energy incentive defrayed nearly 60 percent of project costs and cut the project payback period from 18 months to six months.

"Act On Energy paid for more than half of our project costs, and the reduced payback period was an added benefit that pleased our hospital administration," says Baker. "The new signs are already helping to reduce our power bills."

The new LED technology will save the hospital an estimated \$4,800 in electricity costs every year. "By Christmas, the project was paid for in energy savings – and it's the Christmas gift that keeps on giving," says Cheryl Miller, Act On Energy Business Program Manager.

Beyond the energy bill, LED lighting gave the hospital's maintenance budget a shot in the arm. As Baker says, "We used to replace several exit sign light bulbs every month, at a cost ranging from \$2 to \$10 a piece; but LED lights last for years, so our maintenance costs have gone down."

Some businesses mistakenly assume that only meager savings can be gained from upgrading exit signs. However, because exit signs operate around-the-clock, the energy savings add up faster over time.

"Many businesses still use incandescent exit signs, and this is an easy place to save money—especially with the incentives we have available," says Miller. "Businesses can recoup their costs in a very short time."

Baker also encourages businesses to take a second look at exit lighting. "It worked out well for us, and the Act On Energy team was excellent to work with."

With Act On Energy incentives for LED exit signs, you, too, can show energy waste the door.

Benefits to St. Anthony's:

- \$4,860 annual savings in energy costs
- \$1,800 incentive reduced project payback by one year
- 30,000 kilowatt-hours saved every year
- Lower maintenance costs

Benefits of LED lighting:

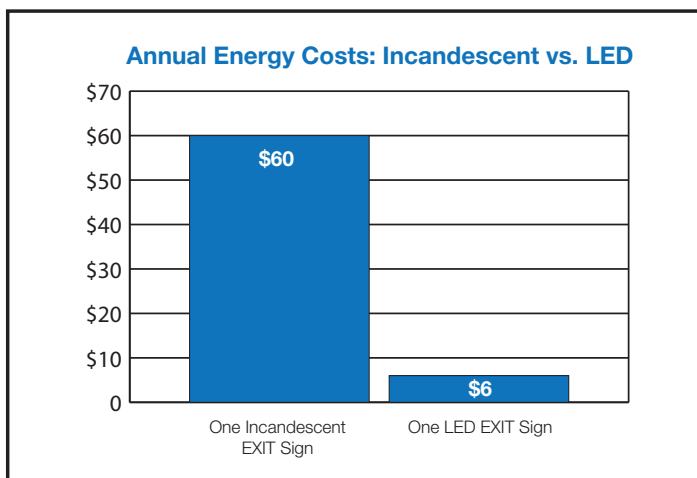
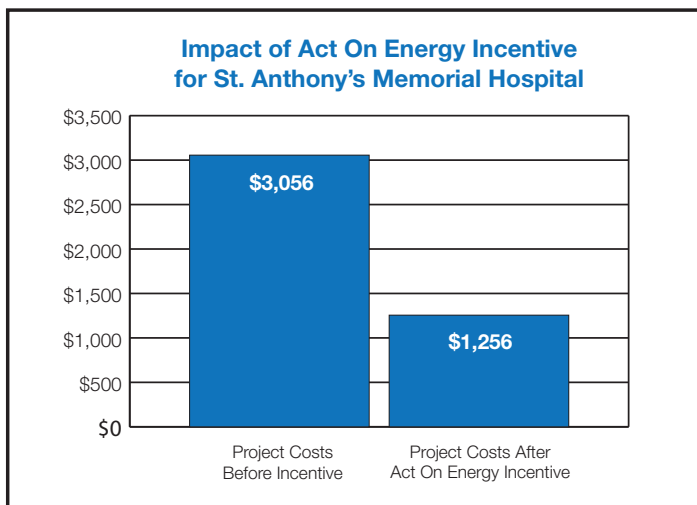
- Extremely low energy usage
- Long bulb life; minimal maintenance
- Excellent illumination
- Greater durability



Sick of energy waste? Call Act On Energy!

The Bottom Line

Act On Energy provided St. Anthony's Memorial Hospital an \$1,800 incentive to defray the costs of purchasing 90 LED exit signs. This incentive reduced the project payback by one year and is helping St. Anthony's save more than \$4,800 in energy costs every year!



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—Cheryl A. Miller

Act On Energy Business Program Manager

Energy efficiency. It's good business.

In the first two years of the Act On Energy incentive program, Ameren Illinois provided more than \$10 million in incentive payments to business customers. As a result, these businesses are saving:

- \$11.5 million in annual energy costs
- 109,000 metric tons of carbon emissions—equivalent to removing 21,700 cars from the road for a year
- More than 138.5 million kilowatt-hours—equivalent to the energy used by 12,600 homes for a year

Incentives are available for a variety of energy-saving projects, including lighting, heating and cooling, refrigeration, motors, VFDs, process improvements and compressed air.

Why wait?

Act On Energy – and save!

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