

Chiller Retrofit Energy Savings

$$\text{Base Case Energy Use} = T_e(\text{tons}) \times E_e(\text{kW/ton}) \times \text{LF} \times \text{Hrs}$$

Where

- T_e = existing chiller cooling tons
- E_e = existing chiller efficiency in kW/ton
- y = age of chiller
- LF = load factor of chillers
- Hrs = annual hours of operation

$$\text{New Chiller Energy Use} = T_n(\text{tons}) \times E_n(\text{kW/ton}) \times \text{LF} \times \text{Hrs}$$

Where

- T_n = new chiller cooling tons
- E_n = new chiller efficiency in kW/ton

$$\text{Energy Savings} = \text{Base Case Energy Use} - \text{New Chiller Energy Use}$$

Assume the existing chiller is a 150-ton water-cooled centrifugal chiller that is 12 years old. The original efficiency of 0.85 kW/ton. The load factor is 0.75. Operating hours are 3000 hours/year.

The new chiller is an improved efficiency 150-ton water-cooled centrifugal chiller with efficiency of 0.56 kW/ton. This is more efficient than the federal standard at the time of installation of the new unit, which is 0.7 kW/ton.

A chiller EUL is 20 years. Calculating simple payback is a matter of determining energy savings and annual cost savings and then multiplying by the 20 year EUL.

Existing Chiller

$$\begin{aligned} ((150 \times 0.85) \times (0.75 \times 3,000)) &= \\ 127.5 \times 2,250 &= \\ 286,875 \text{ kWh/yr} & \end{aligned}$$

New Chiller

$$\begin{aligned} (150 \times 0.56) \times (0.75 \times 3,000) &= \\ 84.0 \times 2,250 &= \\ 189,000 \text{ kWh/yr} & \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Energy savings} = 286,875 - 189,000 = 97,875 \text{ kWh/yr}$$

$$\text{Simple Payback} = 97,875 \text{ kWh/yr} @ \$0.085/\text{kWh} = \$8,319.00/\text{yr}$$

$$\text{Chiller Life Time Savings 20 Yr} = \$8,319 \times 20 = \$166,380 \text{ or } 1,957,500 \text{ kWh}$$

Depending on policy decisions, one way to determine lifetime savings is to calculate the savings between the 0.85 kW/ton and 0.56 kW/ton units for 8 years (8 years of life are remaining in the unit that is retiring early). For the remaining 12 years of the new chiller, the savings is calculated as the difference between the federal standard and the new unit.

Existing Chiller with 8 EUL

$$\begin{aligned} (150 \times 0.85) \times (0.75 \times 3,000) &= \\ 127.5 \times 2,250 &= \\ 286.875 \text{ kWh/yr.} & \end{aligned}$$

New Chiller

$$\begin{aligned} (150 - 0.56) \times (0.75 \times 3,000) &= \\ 84.0 \times 2,250 &= \\ 189,000 \text{ kWh/yr} & \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Energy Savings} = 286,875 - 189,000 = 97,875 \text{ kWh/yr}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Energy savings years 1-8} &= 286.175 - 189,000 = 97,875 \text{ kWh/yr} \times 8 = 783,000 \text{ kWhr} \\ \text{Cost Savings over 8 years @ } &\$0.085 = \$66,555.00 \end{aligned}$$

Federal Std Chiller

$$\begin{aligned} (150 - 0.7) \times (0.75 \times 3,000) &= \\ 105 \times 2,250 &= \\ 236,250 \text{ kWh/yr} & \end{aligned}$$

New Chiller

$$\begin{aligned} (150 - 0.56) \times (0.75 \times 3,000) &= \\ 84.0 \times 2,250 &= \\ 189,000 \text{ kWh/yr} & \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Energy Savings} = 236,250 - 189,000 = 47,250 \text{ kWh/yr}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Energy Savings years 9-20} &= 236,250 - 189,000 = 47,250 \text{ kWh/yr} \times 12 = 567,000 \text{ kWh} \\ \text{Cost Savings over 12 years @ } &\$0.085 = \$48,195.00 \end{aligned}$$

SUMMARY SAVINGS using EUL/RUL

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Energy Savings over 8 years EUL} &= 783,000 \text{ kWh} \\ \text{Cost Savings over 8 years @ } &\$0.085 = \$66,555.00 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Energy Savings over RUL of 12 years} &= 567,000 \text{ kWh} \\ \text{Cost Savings over RUL of 12 years} &= \$48,195.00 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Total Energy Savings attributable to New Chiller} & \\ \text{Over 20 yr Life } 783,000 \text{ kWh} + 567,000 \text{ kWh} &= 1,350,000 \text{ kWh} \\ \text{Energy Savings over Life of 20 years} &= \$114,750.00 \end{aligned}$$

Energy Costs ignore any Escalation in Rates

