



Calgary Downtown District Energy Centre

General FAQ

Benefits of District Energy - At A Glance

Lower Capital Costs District Energy displaces customer capital costs for the installation of new or replacement boilers systems.

Risk Management Long term service contract with an established energy provider.

Maximize Your Property Value By reducing the amount of square footage required by equipment in your boiler room, you will gain usable building space.

Maximize Your Operations Noise reduction, and efficiency gains through the purchase of only the actual heating capacity required.

When did the District Energy Centre become operational?

The District Energy Centre became fully operational – and began providing its first customer, the City of Calgary Municipal Building, with thermal energy – in March of 2010.

Is District Energy a new technology?

District Energy is actually not a technology at all – it is a means to generate and transmit thermal energy and can incorporate many different technologies and fuel supplies.

District Energy is also not a new concept – similar systems originated in North America as early as the 1880s, when electric utilities were formed to serve major U.S. cities, like New York and Chicago. District Energy is also very common in Europe.



This is a LEED building – what does that mean?

LEED stands for Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design, a program that benchmarks building performance in energy efficiency. The District Energy Centre will be a LEED building, based on a third party verification that is in its final stages.

How much did the District Energy Centre cost?

The entire project was completed at a cost of under \$50 million, on time and on budget.

The District Energy Centre employs gas-fired boilers, like many other buildings - what makes District Energy different than conventional boiler systems?

For a customer of District Energy, there is a capital cost and ongoing maintenance savings by tying into the ENMAX system rather than engineering, purchasing, installing and maintaining their own system.

From a technical perspective, the District Energy Centre employs some of the latest boiler technology - all of the pumps and fans are variable speed which means they operate with less energy than conventional boilers. Solar panels on the roof also provide some of the electricity needs of the plant.

How many of these facilities are in operation in Canada?

District Energy is actually not that uncommon in an institutional setting - in fact, there are roughly 130 operating District Energy plants in Canada. However, the majority of these are larger institutions - like universities and hospitals - instead of interconnected, commercial enterprises.

How much heat does the District Energy Centre produce?

The District Energy Centre produces enough thermal energy to heat approximately 10 million square feet of building space at peak load conditions.



How do customers connect to District Energy?

