



# Demand Response: Food Processing



“The financial benefits alone make it a very positive program. It also helps us to be good citizens. Ultimately, it’s helped us, helped the employees, and I hope to see it continue.”

VP and General Manager  
Food Processing



If you run an electricity-intensive food processing plant, Pacific Gas and Electric has financially rewarding Demand Response programs that you should consider. PG&E’s Account Services division will work with you, free of charge, to develop a plan of action that allows you to participate in a Demand Response program.

It is in everyone’s interest to help maintain the integrity of the power grid. Demand Response is focused on reducing the risk of service interruptions caused by supply shortage, transmission constraints, or rolling blackouts.

## DEMAND RESPONSE OPPORTUNITIES

Food processing encompasses businesses of all sizes and can be very electricity-intensive. Case in point: One Demand Response participant is a stand-alone 60,000-s.f. processing and packaging facility. The processing portion is highly energy-intensive—capital-intensive, too.

### The Challenge

A food processing plant wants to take advantage of the financial rewards that our Demand Response programs offer without impeding production.

### The Solution

PG&E helped the plant owner realize significant benefits by creating a Demand Response plan of action. To accomplish this, their Demand Response action plan focused on three areas:

- Lighting: Reduce and turn off all non-essential lights.
- Cooling: Turn off HVAC during DR events.
- Process and Non-Essential Equipment: Reduce, turn off, defer until off-peak hours.

Their action plan also included shifting energy consumption just one hour earlier during Demand Response events helping them realize benefits across the board:

- Financial reward - Completed processing before the noon peak period, avoiding the premium charge from noon to six.
- Employee morale boost - Helped his employees avoid rush-hour traffic

The Vice President and General Manager of this facility achieved all of his Demand Response goals and rewards without impeding production. He also said that he won kudos from his employees for his participation.

The day-ahead notification period was another benefit because it allowed him to plan his curtailment activities in advance. As a result, his curtailment record is 100%, resulting in a savings of \$4,000 through out the summer.

The Vice President and General Manager concluded: “Demand Response had no negative impact on business whatsoever. We reaped financial benefits and we did our bit as good citizens.”

## NEXT STEP

Contact your PG&E representative or call our Business Customer Service Center now at **1-800-468-4743**. We will help you determine what Demand Response program is right for you and how it can complement other programs in your Integrated Energy Management portfolio. Earn incentives with PG&E’s Technical Audit/Technology Incentive program for the identification and installation of demand response enabling equipment. Complete details on these no-cost programs are available from your PG&E representative and our web site: [pge.com/demandresponse](http://pge.com/demandresponse).