

The Peoples Gas Energy Efficiency Program  
**Small and Midsize Business**

## CASE STUDY

### CUSTOMER

Su Nueva Lavanderia (Kedzie Avenue, 55th Street, Cermak and Western Avenue locations), Chicago

### PROJECTS

- Hot Water Heaters (Kedzie and Western)
- High-Speed Washers (Western and 55th Street)
- Ozone Laundry System (55th Street)
- Dryer Retrofit (Western)

### TOTAL REBATE AMOUNT

\$65,135

### ENERGY SAVINGS

55,263 therms

### ESTIMATED ANNUAL SAVINGS

\$46,973

### CUSTOMER BACKGROUND

Su Nueva Lavanderia is a full-service laundromat business with five locations in the Chicagoland area. Paul Hansen, owner of Su Nueva Lavanderia, also serves as president of the Illinois Coin Laundry Association. The Coin Laundry Association is a network of laundry owners, distributors and manufacturers.



## Project Description

As a large energy user, Su Nueva Lavanderia presented tremendous natural gas saving opportunities for all of its locations. After hearing a presentation by the Peoples Gas Energy Efficiency Program team, Paul Hansen became interested in improving energy efficiency at his laundromats. He started with the Western Avenue and Kedzie Avenue locations, which promised the highest potential for savings. Peoples Gas scheduled a free energy assessment and began exploring opportunities for customized energy efficiency solutions.

The assessment uncovered great energy-saving options for the business. The Peoples Gas team shared information about the available rebates for high-efficiency water heaters and high-speed washers. With high-efficiency water heaters being an affordable upfront investment, Hansen was able to make these upgrades immediately. The savings from that initial project then led him to explore additional energy-saving opportunities — he replaced his existing washers and installed ozone laundry at the 55th Street location. An ozone laundry system generates ozone (O<sub>3</sub>), a naturally occurring molecule, which helps clean fabrics by chemically reacting with soils in cold water. Adding an ozone laundry system will reduce the amount of chemicals, detergents, and hot water needed to wash linens. At the Western Avenue location, new commercial dryer retrofits saved money by leveraging new energy-saving technology. The Peoples Gas team also installed free energy-saving products at both locations through its Energy Jumpstart offering.

Throughout the process, Hansen enjoyed working with the Peoples Gas team and appreciated the energy savings. “The team is great at identifying opportunities to help you save,” he said. “It was extremely beneficial to have the team involved early in the process and available to present savings opportunities.”

## Impact

The assessment helped to establish a valuable relationship between the Peoples Gas Energy Efficiency Program team and Su Nueva Lavanderia. After reviewing the savings opportunities and consulting with the team about options, Hansen was able to move forward with projects that delivered great savings and fit his business needs.



“I am now looking at completing upgrades at my other locations over the next year,” Hansen said. “The process and installation was seamless. The success of these initial energy-saving projects and increase in business have led me to consider other opportunities and spread the word on how the program can help other laundromat owners.”

**The Peoples Gas Energy Efficiency Program team is available to help you capture similar savings at your business. Call 855-849-8928 today to schedule a facility assessment with one of our energy experts.**