

**AKRON  
ENERGY  
SYSTEMS**

**Community Impact Report**



# IT TAKES A COMMUNITY

## A Message from Marc Divis, President of Akron Energy Systems

First and foremost, Akron Energy Systems would like to extend our sympathies to all families in our community negatively impacted by the global pandemic. Most everyone knows someone that has lost a friend or family member or dealt with a tragedy related to the pandemic. On a more optimistic tone, we want to express our gratitude to the brave healthcare, EMS, public safety, and educational providers that served our community so admirably over the last two years. These “heroes” of our community were there for all of us regardless of the risk to their personal health and safety – Thank You!

During this pandemic, the AES Team diligently delivered on our promise to the community – completing the rejuvenation of the downtown district energy system. Through much hard work and effort, our Team has provided a nearly flawless execution on this \$35 million-dollar, multi-year project.

The new, high-efficiency energy plant has completed two years of service, while the distribution system improvements are nearly complete. The results of this historic investment in urban sustainability have been significant.

Most importantly, these savings have generated the funds to pay for the debt of the investment.

None of these achievements would be possible without the support of Mayors Dan Horrigan, Jeff Fusco, and Don Plusquellic and their exceptionally

talented administrations. In addition, the commitment of the Akron City Council and its president, Margo Summerville, was invaluable.

As the main anchors and most critical customers of the system, Akron Children’s Hospital and Cleveland Clinic Akron General played an integral role in evaluating, selecting, and ultimately supporting the project. The vision and leadership of Akron Children’s Hospitals’ Bill Considine and Tim Ziga and Cleveland Clinic Akron General’s Danette Hauck, was critical to the project’s success. Thank you to Summit County Executive Ilene Shapiro and her staff, Canal Place, Huntington Bank, and all the system customers for their continued commitment to community energy. We are deeply grateful for all their support, funding, and trust. This cornerstone project, only capable through a “whole of the community” collaboration, has forged a deep commitment in our company to Akron’s well-being and environmental stewardship.

Our company mission statement – Invested in the Power of Community- most aptly summarized this commitment. Our daily mission is to positively impact Akron in any manner where our expertise, experience, and passion can add value.

I encourage you to visit our website [akronenergysystems.com](http://akronenergysystems.com) to learn more about our company and mission.



## **2022, A Year of Accomplishments**

- 140,000 Tons per year of reduced greenhouse gas emissions
- 97% reduction in air pollutants
- 46% improvement in energy efficiency
- 99.999% reliability of system operations
- 27 jobs were retained and 10 new jobs created
- Added 6 new customers to the system
- 50% increase in cooling sales
- \$155 million in community investment savings

## PLANT OPERATIONS



**The new plant operates above 80% efficiency, meeting operational design thresholds.**

From the distribution system, we are now capturing increased condensate return at levels above 12% over the year. As this capital project continues toward completion, we anticipate by the Second Quarter of 2023, we will achieve design capacity for increased recycled condensate from the system. In addition, Akron Energy Systems installed a backup fuel oil system for two boilers housed in the new production facility. Each tank can hold 25,000 gallons of fuel oil. This backup fuel center will provide the required fuel reserves for Akron Children's Hospital and Akron General Cleveland Clinic Hospital.

# A NEW, **SUSTAINABLE** MAIN STREET



The City of Akron completed the final stage of the 1.4-mile Main Street improvement project in 2022. The \$45 million federally funded project took place in four phases over four years. It included new infrastructure, improved roadways, and increased pedestrian walkways for the Main Street corridor in Downtown Akron. The installation of new underground steam, chilled water, and condensate return piping has allowed Akron Energy Systems to improve system efficiencies and prepare for future growth.

Several customers can now recycle steam condensate from their steam heating systems with the improvements. The condensate is diverted back to Akron Energy Systems' production facility for reuse. As a result, Akron Energy Systems can recycle over 30 million gallons of water annually.



**Capital Improvements**  
**\$6.5M**



**2.5 miles of new steam, water, and condensate piping**



**\$300K+ increased revenue**



**43 Manholes**



**300% increase of chilled water distribution**

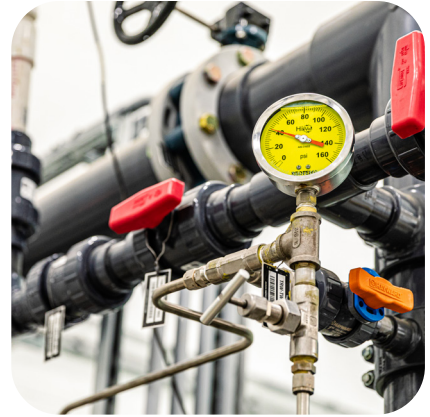


**\$200K+ customer savings**

# A MEASUREMENT OF OUR **SUCCESS**



Carbon Reduction -  
showed environmental  
benefits of  
**3,655** (Ton/Yr).  
Equivalent Forestry (Acres)  
**3,924**



Utility Efficiency –  
reduced fuel use by  
**12%**  
↓



↑  
Water recycling  
showed a  
**20%**  
increase in  
condensate return



Direct Savings -  
**\$165,000**  
Direct Savings



# COMMUNITY SUPPORT

Akron Energy Systems supports our community by bringing people together. Together with a commitment of time, talent, and treasure, we enhance the lives of others in our great city. Our objective this year was to support programs that help people and bring smiles to their faces. We sought new partnerships to increase our outreach efforts and make a difference throughout all of Akron's neighborhoods. Akron Energy Systems is proud of our staff, who stepped up to accept the challenge and gave of themselves to help others in our community.

## YOU MATTER Community Event

Akron Energy Systems and Zion Temple Baptist Church joined to celebrate community togetherness with the You Matter community event. With support from the City of Akron, a day of fun activities and back-to-school supplies was provided to children and their families at the Joy Park Community Center.



Joy Park Community Center Gift Give-Away

- AES "Cool Zone" Mistig Stations
- Akron Art Museum - Family Days Events
- Akron Pride Lock 3 Event
- Akron All-American Soap Box Derby
- Akron Marathon Race Series
- Bounce Innovation Event Sponsorships
- First Tee Sponsorship
- Elves & More Northeast Ohio Charity Bike Giveaway
- St. Bernard's Food Pantry
- Community Centers Christmas Gift Giveaway (Summit Lake, Reservoir Park, Joy Park)
- Joy Park Kaboom Food Donation
- Joy Park Federation & Zion Baptist Church Thanksgiving Charity

**Together, we continue to invest in the power of community.**



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