



State Energy Program

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Vending Machines Reduce Energy Consumption and Save Money

Project description of a state energy office project dealing with energy efficiency and renewable energy that the State Energy Program (SEP) published in its bimonthly newsletter [Conservation Update](#).

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Can soda machines save taxpayers more than \$15,000 annually? The next time a soda is purchased from a vending machine in a State of Colorado Building in downtown Denver, it could be chilled using less energy. It's part of a plan by the Colorado Governor's Office of Energy Management and Conservation (OEMC) to save money for state agencies.



Colorado is testing VendingMiser energy controls that reduce electricity consumption on cold beverage machines by 41%. *Colorado Governor's Office of Energy Management and Conservation.*

Vending machines usually run continuously to provide cold refreshments. OEMC is experimenting with a new energy control device called "VendingMiser" that saves energy without altering the temperature or quality of the refreshments. The VendingMiser reduces the overall number of running cycles of the motor, which saves on maintenance, repairs, and energy consumption. When someone approaches the vending machine, a motion

sensor control triggers the motor on, making the energy savings invisible to the cold beverage purchaser.

OEMC conducted a test was on nine VendingMisers that were installed on cold beverage machines. These machines used 41% less electricity, which saves approximately \$78 per machine annually. Most importantly, the machines experienced no reduction in sales. The devices are available to the public.

OEMC is coordinating the statewide installation of approximately 250 VendingMisers. The project is expected to save taxpayers approximately \$15,600 per year. This is a pilot project with the aim to reduce pollution, energy costs, and use for state agencies. The project partners include OEMC, the Pollution Prevention Advisory Board (which provided grant funding), and the Department of Human Services' Business Enterprise Program for the Blind.