

EDUCATION CASE STUDY: SUPPLY UPGRADE OFFSET



St Augustine's College
AUGUSTINE HEIGHTS
Be together in heart and mind

Operational since: May 2023

At a glance

St Augustine's College was upgrading several classrooms with new HVAC systems over a 12 month program. To avoid expensive and time consuming grid supply upgrades, a DNA Energy system was installed at a fraction of the cost and time.

Key learnings

Building/Transport electrification and HVAC installations put huge strains on the grid. Upgrading supplies will become more common. The ability to offset or at least defer these upgrades and organically grow with organisations as they themselves grow is of high cost and operational benefit to everyone. There is also a Sustainability uplift as better behind the meter control helps expedite the energy transition.

Also..

The same DNA Energy system can be used to lower customer demand charges and provide support for distribution network operators.

CONTACT

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CHALLENGE

Like most budget conscious schools, St Augustine's was keen to install HVAC for student and staff comfort but had to keep costs under control. Engineering calculations determined a grid supply upgrade, but at a prohibitively high cost and long, uncertain timeline.

SOLUTION

A DNA Energy wireless mesh control system was installed at site, integrating with several HVAC OEMs in a single control strategy. It has avoided upgrade costs and infrastructure upgrade uncertainty.



MAP OF THE EXPANSIVE SITE. RED DOTS ARE DNA ENERGY WIRELESS CONTROL POINTS

BENEFITS

1 Low cost, immediate results

Compared to an infrastructure upgrade, the \$47k system means the customer is around \$200k cash positive, as well as having lower comparative demand charges.

2 Certainty

A grid upgrade has long and uncertain timelines, putting the HVAC upgrade under pressure. **The DNA Energy system has offset this risk and put the school in control.**

3 Growing with the school

The HVAC upgrade program was delivered over 12 months. The modular DNA Energy system grew with it, only adding controls as needed.