

## Utility Management Services, Inc. Finds Significant Savings for **Cape Fear Public Utility Authority**

# Over \$407,000 in Total Annual Savings

**C**ape Fear Public Utility Authority (CFPUA) oversees all water and wastewater services for citizens of New Hanover County, NC. CFPUA serves 60,000+ customers whose user fees are its sole funding.

Although CFPUA's leadership team uses practices to reduce their environmental footprint and overall energy consumption, their electricity costs were still a large line item for the organization.

Knowing the complexity of the rates and riders established by their power provider, CFPUA decided it would be most advantageous to partner with Utility Management Services, Inc. (UMS), a local distinguished utility bill auditing firm, to further investigate alternative cost-savings opportunities.

UMS performed a thorough 12-month historical billing audit for 192 electric accounts using

proprietary analytical tools.

Interval data was not available for many accounts. Despite the lack of information, the seasoned analysts were able to make on/off peak usage projections based on the functionality of peoples' everyday habits and water use. Computer simulation models were also used to project total monthly and annual billing for CFPUA under each tariff offered by Duke Energy Progress.

The audit revealed that CFPUA's unique operating characteristics made them eligible for certain cost-savings opportunities that promised significant financial returns with no capital investment.

The smaller opportunities required no operational changes. Whereas, the larger, more lucrative opportunities were advanced; requiring CFPUA to alter procedures and train staff accordingly.

Already having generators in place, UMS advised CFPUA to upgrade their air quality permits. This improvement allowed CFPUA to enroll in a program that rewards them for running their generators briefly each year when Duke Energy Progress' system peaks, in exchange for even greater savings.

Since the implementation of these programs in mid-2015, CFPUA has



Top photo: Michael Richardson, CFPUA Water Resources Manager. Bottom photo: Ken Yogh, Wastewater Treatment Superintendent.

saved \$194,800 with no negative impact to its bottom line. CFPUA is expected to surpass their initial projected annual savings of \$407,102 by the end of the year.

The most lucrative savings opportunity identified by UMS for two of CFPUA's accounts has already saved them \$119,286 in a six-month period.

## \$150 Million In Savings For Our Customers



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