

Retrocommissioning: Full RCx Services



Are Full RCx Services Right for Your Facility?

To find out, answer the questions below.

1. Does your facility have more than 75,000 square feet of conditioned space?
2. Does your facility have complex heating, ventilating, and air conditioning (HVAC) systems, controlled by an energy management system?

If you answered “Yes” to either of these questions, you can qualify for Full RCx Services.

If the answer to both questions is “No,” then please consider **Enhanced O&M Services.**”

What Is Retrocommissioning?

Just like an automotive tune-up for a car, retrocommissioning (RCx) is a systematic process for fine-tuning a building’s electrical, mechanical, and control systems so they operate at an optimal efficiency. RCx is the process of monitoring, troubleshooting, and adjusting systems in existing buildings to optimize energy performance. Typically, this service can significantly reduce overall energy consumption with minimal financial investment.

Because today’s control systems are highly interactive, proper system integration is critical. The presence of sophisticated equipment and control systems results in a trickle-down effect on operations. That means small problems can have big impacts on performance and energy use.

How Can BGE Help?

BGE’s RCx program helps ensure that building equipment and systems are properly integrated, so they perform effectively and efficiently and meet current operating requirements and expectations. Specifically, the RCx program seeks to optimize the energy performance of your existing facility and its systems by identifying and implementing relatively low-cost operational and maintenance improvements.

Typical energy savings can range from 5% to 15% without significant capital investment and can provide paybacks in fewer than two years.

Full RCx Services

Full RCx Services are designed for BGE’s large commercial and industrial customers that operate facilities with more than 75,000 square feet of conditioned space, with complex heating, ventilating, and air conditioning (HVAC) systems controlled by an energy management system with comprehensive direct digital control. Elements of Full RCx Services typically include (but are not limited to) HVAC calibrations, diagnostic and function tests of major systems and equipment, air and water systems balancing, calibration of energy management and control systems (EMCS) and lighting systems controls, operations and maintenance (O&M) tune-ups, and training.

BGE incentives cover up to 75% of the cost of Full RCx Services, with a cap of \$15,000 per project.

Benefits of Full RCx Services

- Reduces energy use, saving money.
- Reduces maintenance and repair costs.
- Returns equipment to its proper operational state and extends equipment service life.
- Improves occupant comfort and reduces complaints.
- Improves outside air control and indoor air quality.
- Eliminates building hot and cold spots.
- Decreases supply air pressure set point and rebalances the system.
- Optimizes chiller and other equipment operation.
- Adjusts and corrects equipment operating schedules.

Do I Need Full RCx Services?

If your building has any of the following problems, your facility might be a candidate for Full RCx Services:

- Unexplained high energy use
- Persistent equipment operation problems or failures
- Excessive occupant complaints about comfort (hot or cold spots)

When Is RCx Not Appropriate?

RCx is not appropriate if:

- Most of the equipment and systems are either outdated or at the end of their service lives
- Significant system design problems exist
- Major equipment malfunctions are extensive enough that equipment replacement is the best remedy

If you have questions about your potential project, please contact a BGE Smart Energy Solutions representative.

Eligibility Requirements

General facility requirements for eligibility include the following. (Please refer to the Participant Manual at <http://conservation.bgesmartenergy.com/business/retrocommissioning/full-rcx-services> for a complete list.)

- The facility must be on a BGE electric service rate GL or P.
- Building must have a minimum of 75,000 square feet of conditioned space.
- The facility must have an existing building or energy management system with direct digital control of major facility HVAC systems.
- The owner and facility staff must express a commitment to be actively involved in the entire retrocommissioning process.
- The facility owner must commit to at least \$15,000 of funding, in addition to staff resources, for completing the project plan and implementing approved RCx measures with an estimated simple payback of 1.5 years or less.

To assist customers in performing these services, BGE has selected a group of approved RCx Service Providers. The process included the review and acceptance of each provider's qualifications and the Service Provider's acceptance of limits on assessment and study costs.

How To Participate

1. Contact a BGE Smart Energy Solutions Service Provider at business@BGESmartEnergy.com or call **1.410.290.1202** to see if you qualify for the program.
2. Select a retrocommissioning Service Provider from BGE's list of prequalified contractors.
3. Work with your Service Provider to complete and submit the Full RCX Services application.
4. In reviewing program applications, BGE will select projects that meet program eligibility and criteria for cost-effectiveness, energy savings, and verifiability.

To learn more, visit BGESmartEnergy.com.