



CASE STUDY

Energy Efficiency

Brought to you by Columbia Gas of Massachusetts

Pioneer Valley Condominiums 100 units

CHICOPEE, MA

Pioneer Valley Condominiums (PVC) is located at Colonial Circle in Chicopee. Originally built as apartments in 1957, PVC was established in 1981 and is comprised of one and two bedroom units.

PROJECT SUMMARY

In early 2012, PVC contacted Columbia Gas for an energy assessment. Columbia Gas's energy specialist reviewed everything from the attics to the boiler rooms in four buildings and identified several energy improvements. Based on the recommendations, PVC installed:

- Three high efficiency boilers
- Three indirect DHW tanks
- Attic insulation
- Low-flow showerheads
- Low-flow faucet aerators
- Programmable thermostats
- Air sealing

Columbia Gas contributed \$61,190 toward the natural gas energy improvements that totaled \$130,240. These improvements should save over 15,370 therms and approximately \$16,890 per year.

THE NEED

Improve energy efficiency, reduce operating costs and increase residents comfort.

THE SOLUTION

Installation of high-efficiency heating equipment, building shell improvements, and energy-saving shower heads and aerators.

- **Project Cost**
\$130,240
- **Incentive Paid**
\$61,190
- **Est. Annual Savings**
\$16,890
- **Customer Payback**
Less than 5 years

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COLUMBIA GAS AS STRATEGIC PARTNER

Pioneer Valley Condominiums contacted Columbia Gas to conduct energy assessments on their complex. *“Columbia Gas was extremely helpful,”* stated Teri Lee, property manager at PVC. *“The Columbia Gas team provided us with a variety of programs to help our facility realize a substantial cost savings, reduce waste, and offer residents a more comfortable and healthy environment. At the time of the inspection, they thoroughly reviewed the energy assessment and educated us on the benefits to our facility. In the end, it was clear that it would be beneficial to take advantage of what the program had to offer.”*

“PVC’s enthusiasm and commitment to the project was inspiring,” states Kara Gray, program manager at Columbia Gas. *“PVC installed many of the recommendations from the energy assessment to improve the way they spend their energy dollars. We look forward to working on next phase of this project in hopes to find innovative ways to address PVC’s hot water system.”*

ABOUT COLUMBIA GAS OF MASSACHUSETTS

Columbia Gas of Massachusetts is an energy services company serving nearly 300,000 natural gas customers in Massachusetts. The company is a wholly-owned subsidiary of NiSource Inc., based in Merrillville, Ind. NiSource Inc. is a Fortune 500 holding company with headquarters in Merrillville, Ind., whose core operating companies engage in natural gas transmission, storage and distribution, as well as electric generation, transmission and distribution. NiSource operating companies deliver energy to 3.7 million customers located within the high-demand energy corridor stretching from the Gulf Coast through the Midwest to New England.



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