



N.C. Biotech Center Gets Energy-efficiency Upgrade

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Research Triangle Park, N.C. — The North Carolina Biotechnology Center has finished a half-million-dollar energy retrofit of its Alexander Drive headquarters that is projected to return 80 percent of the cost over the next 15 years.

Linc Services, based in Raleigh, did the work.

The Biotech Center now has:

- 32 kW photovoltaic solar array rooftop system from which power will be directed into the facility.
- Direct digital control system that uses a web-based platform to optimize the systems' operations and allows for remote monitoring and operation.
- High-efficiency lighting, including FO28-841 lamps to replace florescent lamps and new electronic ballasts; motion sensors in offices; and high output compact fluorescents in the lobby.
- Rooftop HVAC that replaced outdated units with high-h efficiency gas heat.

The project used \$550,000 in funds from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. Linc estimates the 15-year return will be about \$407,000.

"It was a challenging project for us, as the project budget was well short of what was needed to address all the client's needs. By using all of the funding sources encouraged in the federal Recovery Act program, we were able to fund the solar array system, which is a key highlight of the project, Dan Dowell, Linc's director of energy solutions for the Mid-Atlantic region, said.

The Biotech Center is a private, non-profit corporation supported by the N.C. General Assembly. Its mission is to provide long-term economic and societal benefits to North Carolina by supporting biotechnology research, business, education and strategic policy statewide.

It has regional offices in Greenville, Charlotte, Winston-Salem, Wilmington and Asheville. It recently dedicated a new wing of the RTP building to former Gov. Jim Hunt, who pushed through the center's beginning.

Linc is owned by ABM Industries Inc. (NYSE: [ABM](#)).