



Rural Development • Rural Business & Cooperative Development • Rural Energy for America Program

Fresher Meat, Increased Space Through Energy Efficient Improvements

Sonny's Super Foods is a retail grocery store that serves the Hot Springs, South Dakota community.

Recently, store owner Scott Schmunk made some improvements to the store with the use of a grant from USDA Rural Development's Renewable Energy for America Program (REAP). Scott was able to make energy-efficiency improvements that will reduce energy costs, including replacing an old meat case with a more energy efficient one and retrofitting overhead lighting with LED.

Paul Oberpriller, Manager of Sonny's Super Foods shared that the upgraded meat cooler is 60% more efficient than the old one, has 20% more display space, and helps keep products fresher longer.

Sonny's employs 30 people and they have additional store locations serving communities in Nebraska including Sidney, Bridgeport, and Cozad.



Pictured left to right are USDA Rural Development Coordinator Tim Potts; Paul Oberpriller, Manager of Sonny's Super Foods; and USDA Rural Development Rural Business and Cooperative Programs Director Dana Kleinsasser standing in front of the new meat case.

Obligation Amount: \$16,667 REAP

Date of Obligation: 08/21/2015

Congressional District: At Large, Senator Thune, Senator Rounds, and Congresswoman Noem

Partners: Scott Schmunk and USDA Rural Development

Demographics: Hot Springs, SD

Impact: The upgraded meat cooler is 60% more efficient than the old one, has 20% more display space, and helps keep products fresher longer.