Project profile

Flathead County

Flathead County, Montana

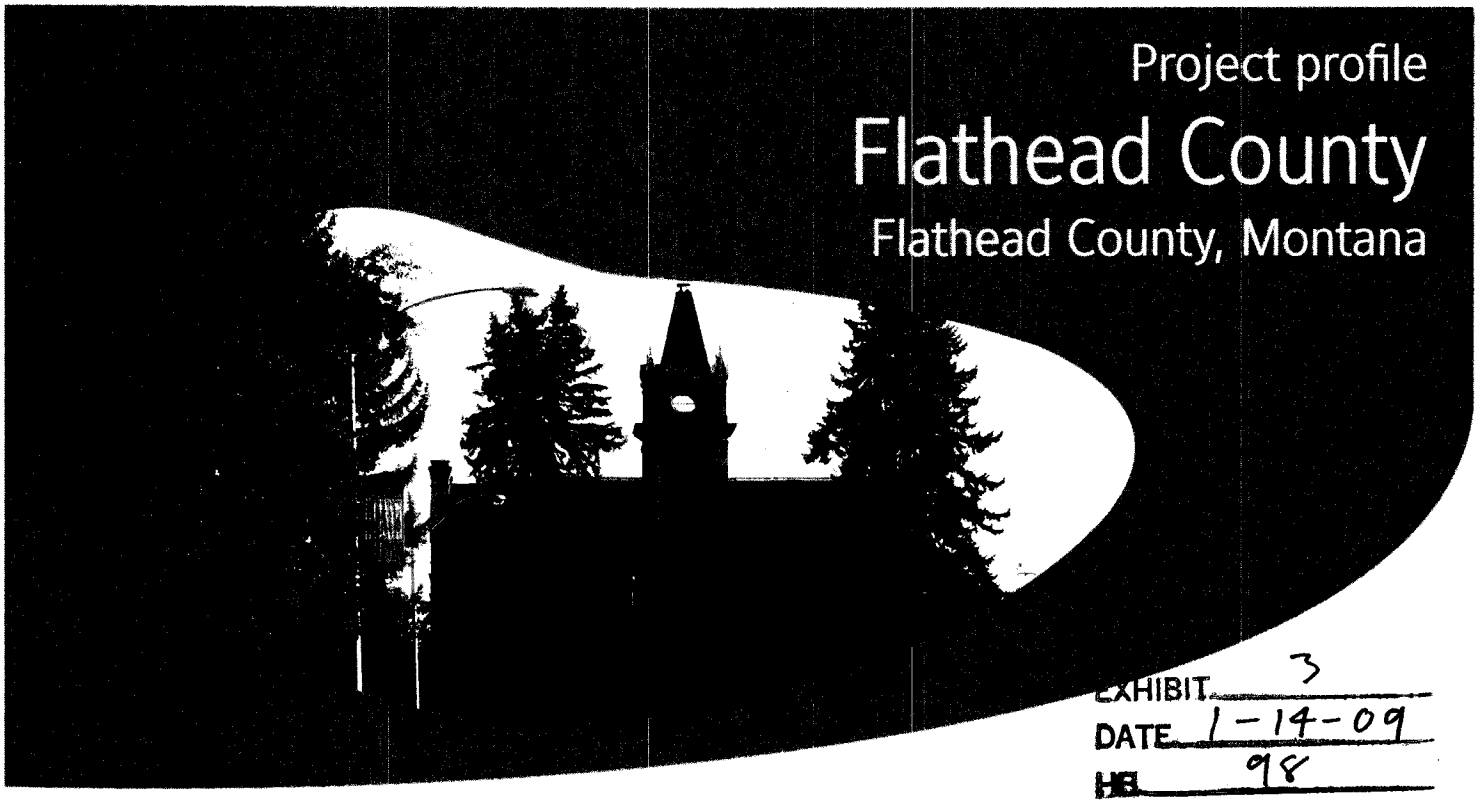

EXHIBIT 3
DATE 1-14-09
HB 98

Facility renovation funded through energy efficiency

Located in the gateway to Glacier National Park, Flathead County, Montana is host to 85,000 residents and thousands more who come to enjoy the great outdoors. Johnson Controls is working with Flathead County to implement the first county performance contract in the State of Montana under revised performance contracting legislation. This project includes facility improvements that will update county buildings and save more than 25 percent in utility bills.

Performance contracting pays for upgrades

After the state legislature updated its performance contracting legislation to include local government, Johnson Controls immediately went to work with county leaders to develop a plan to improve county buildings – all paid for with money saved from the project. A tax-exempt municipal lease that Johnson Controls helped negotiate will fund improvements and be paid back over 30 years.

The $3.9 million contract will save the county more than $161,000 in annual utility and operational costs while avoiding the annual generation of more than two million pounds of carbon dioxide emissions.

Facelift for Flathead facilities

More than a dozen buildings are being renovated as part of the performance contract, including the justice center, juvenile detention center, courthouse, animal shelter, administration buildings, maintenance shops, fleet storage, community center and expo building.

Traditional energy conservation measures, including lighting, boiler and chiller retrofits, are included along with upgrades to vending machines, elevators and IT power management. Additionally, inmate water control systems at the jail and other improvements will lead to greater water efficiency, which is always a concern in the region. A county-wide energy management control system will help facility managers learn where to find additional savings.

Historic county courthouse

Special care is being taken with the century-old Flathead County Courthouse. Johnson Controls is helping arrange for a grant for exterior renovation to the historic courthouse. Windows that are both historically sensitive and energy efficient may be installed in the brick and stone building.

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