



Columbia REA

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 
The power of human connections

VARIABLE FREQUENCY DRIVES

FOR COMMERCIAL BUILDINGS

ON AIR HANDLING UNIT FANS

- INCREASE ENERGY SAVINGS
- REDUCE MAINTENANCE
- LOWER OPERATING COSTS

DRIVING DOWN CONSUMPTION

Columbia REA may offer up to \$300 per horsepower for qualifying variable frequency drives (VFD) on air handling unit (AHU) fan installations.

Adding a VFD on a constant speed AHU fan allows the drive to match the amount of energy the motor needs for the amount of work that is being done. This allows for greater energy savings and an extended life of the motor.



BENEFITS MAY INCLUDE



Reduced energy costs



Reduced fan usage



Long life span



Precise temperature control

How Does It Save Energy?

A VFD is a device that matches the energy the motor needs with the work that is being done. Installing a VFD on an AHU fan allows the VFD to vary the speed of the fan. As the fan slows down, it draws less power than at constant speed, resulting in energy savings.

Many AHU systems are engineered for 100% design flow, but many could operate with less flow. For example, fans that are turned down just 10% can save up to 25% in energy costs. In most systems, reducing the speed by 50% can cause a 75% drop in energy consumption.

Incentive Requirements

PRE-INSTALLATION CONDITIONS:

- Building heating fuel type may be either electric or gas.
- VFD must be installed on existing AHU single-speed fan.
- This measure applies to retrofits only.

POST-INSTALLATION CONDITIONS:

- The retrofit adds a VFD to control the fan with variable-speed fan operation.
- Any existing AHU throttling or bypass devices are removed or permanently disabled.



Need help planning your project or want to learn more about VFD requirements?
Visit tradeallynetworknw.com.

Estimated Incentives



Columbia REA may offer **up to \$300 per horsepower**.



A typical payback, including incentives, is **about 2 years**.



If your project meets the above requirements, **call Columbia REA** today to confirm eligibility and incentives.



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Additional terms and conditions may apply

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