



# 2023 Benefits Report





# 2023 Taper Benefits Report

As a California benefit corporation, Taper is required to complete an annual report that demonstrates and measures Taper's general and specific public benefit purposes. Taper's Articles of Incorporation set forth its general benefit purpose as preserving the environment. Taper achieves this benefit through its specific benefit purpose of transforming business by optimizing resource consumption and maximizing building efficiency.

## 1. Taper's 2023 Accomplishments and Impacts

As a mission-driven business backed by over 50 years of leadership and expertise in energy efficiency, Taper's goal is to assist companies in making sustainability easy and profitable by providing turnkey building efficiency upgrades from start to finish by deploying the latest HVAC, refrigeration, and lighting technologies. All shares of Taper are owned by its nonprofit parent company, Ecology Action of Santa Cruz.

This annual report demonstrates Taper's deep commitment to accelerating carbon reduction and economic prosperity for our customers. Across the commercial sector, from food retail to health and fitness facilities, Taper identified and implemented building efficiency improvements throughout several states and has become a recognized leader in energy retrofits, increasing its numbers of partners significantly in 2023.

Taper's 2023 annual report is conducted in accordance with applicable requirements and measures in the B Impact Assessment which was selected for the rigor of its social, environmental, and governance best practices after reviewing several other standards.

In 2023, Taper delivered 1220 energy efficiency projects that saved approximately 48.7M kWh and 1.6M therms. This is roughly equivalent to 42,979 metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub>E.



Sector	# Projects	kWh Savings	Therms Savings	MT CO2E reductions
Grocery Store	490	30,848,178	1,604,227	30,313
Large Retail	102	14,125,894		9,996
Health & Fitness	14	1,724,093		1,220
Convenience Store	483	914,580		647
Restaurant	123	576,210		408
Large Office	5	326,419	1332	238
Manufacturing	3	221,272		157
TOTAL	1220	48,736,646	1,605,559	42,979

## 2. Assessment of the Overall Social and Environmental Performance of the Benefit Corporation:

Using the B Impact Assessment, Taper reviewed its overall social and environmental performance in several areas over the past year, finding many strengths and recognizing areas of opportunities. The B Impact Assessment is a management tool used by 50,000 businesses worldwide to help them assess their impact on various stakeholders including their workers, the community, customers, and the environment.



In addition to the environmental benefits resulting from Taper's work, its operations are conducted in ways that reduce negative environmental impacts. We are continuously assessing our processes to achieve further reductions.

For purposes of the assessment, social performance includes maintaining an equitable workplace in addition to engaging beneficially with the public. Among the many indicators of an equitable workplace is a ratio of 5 to 1 between the lowest paid employee and the CEO and a robust DEI program. (The national average is 144 to 1 and among B Corps is 7 to 1.) Areas for improvement include further diversifying our staff and a better professional development program. In the community, Taper has been influential in policy development that drives energy savings opportunities in communities.

As a benefit corporation owned by a charitable organization, we will continue to pursue and report improvements in workforce diversity and employee development efforts, stewardship of the environment, and engagement in our communities.

### **3. Taper Board Statement**

In the opinion of the Taper Board of Directors, we find that Taper successfully pursued both its general benefit purpose of preserving the environment and its specific benefit purpose of transforming business by optimizing resource consumption and maximizing building efficiency in all material respects.