



How Bimbo Canada Tackles GA Charges with Battery Storage

[Bimbo Canada](#) is Canada's leading producer and distributor of fresh packaged bread and bakery products, including beloved brands like Dempster's®, Stonemill®, Villaggio®, Natural Bakery, Vachon®, Little Bites™, and Takis®. As part of the global Grupo Bimbo—the world's largest baking company with operations in 34 countries—Bimbo Canada is committed to advancing its mission to 'Nourish A Better World' while delighting customers with delicious and nutritious baked goods and snacks.

Searching for a solution to reduce energy spend

Operating its flagship bakery in Ontario, Bimbo Canada searched for a way to manage its utility expenses better, while advancing on its goal of [achieving Net Zero Carbon by 2050](#). In 2020, after thorough consideration of various technologies, Bimbo Canada selected Enel's [battery energy storage system](#) (BESS) to optimize its energy use and save on energy costs.

How battery systems reduce energy costs

[BESS reduces energy costs](#) by intelligently drawing electricity from the grid during low-priced hours to charge, then utilizing this stored energy to offset grid consumption during high-priced hours. By leveraging automated optimization software, a BESS seamlessly executes this process in the background, ensuring no disruptions to the facility's operations. This ability to shift energy consumption is particularly advantageous in Ontario, due to the Global Adjustment (GA) coincident peak charge.

CASE STUDY



Industry

Food and beverage



Location

Hamilton, Ontario



Solution

3,000 kW, 2-hour battery system



Savings

Nearly 30% reduction of electricity bill expenses



What is Global Adjustment (GA)?

Global Adjustment (GA) is a charge specific to the province of Ontario, levied based on the customer's energy usage during the top five grid-wide peak demand hours of the year. By accurately predicting when these hours will be and shifting energy away from that window, a BESS can save energy-intensive businesses upwards of hundreds of thousands of dollars per year.

Optimized battery storage for energy savings

Bimbo Canada evaluated Enel's turnkey solution and found it well-suited to curbing the company's utility expenses. Enel's [battery optimization software](#), DER.OS, stood out for its ability to forecast and optimize across various factors, including load requirements, weather conditions, utility tariffs, revenue programs, and more. With GA charges making up a significant portion of Bimbo Canada's bills, the BESS's ability to accurately forecast and curtail during system peak hours offers a compelling solution for mitigating utility expenses.

Enhancing grid reliability through battery storage

Beyond cost reductions, Bimbo Canada can also harness their BESS to generate revenue by participating in Ontario's demand response programs. Both the Independent Electric System Operator's (IESO's) demand response and 'Operating Reserves' fast-response programs play a pivotal role in maintaining grid stability in Ontario, by incentivizing large energy users like Bimbo Canada to curtail their energy usage during hours of system peak. In this way, Bimbo Canada's BESS makes a tangible contribution to keeping the lights on in their local community.

5 reasons Bimbo Canada chose Enel as their energy partner

Bimbo Canada, faced with rising energy expenses, sought innovative solutions to alleviate the strain on their bottom line. Enel's financed turnkey battery storage solution emerged as a risk-free remedy, operating discreetly in the background to minimize utility expenses while empowering Bimbo Canada to play a significant role in bolstering local grid reliability and earning supplementary revenues—it's a win-win.

- 1 Maximizing savings potential:** Enel's solution leverages advanced machine learning to forecast GA events and optimize battery operations for maximum utility cost savings.
- 2 Zero capex needed:** With Enel's benefit-share financing model, Bimbo Canada avoids the need for upfront capital investment and risk.
- 3 Assurance of performance:** Enel provides robust performance guarantees, minimizing risk by ensuring a baseline battery performance.
- 4 Cutting-edge technology:** Enel employs Tier 1 hardware and software in their battery systems, maximizing performance and efficiency for Bimbo Canada.
- 5 Strong reputation:** Enel's proven track record instilled confidence in Bimbo Canada that Enel could execute quality battery storage projects that deliver as promised.