

Creating Energy Solutions

The **WSU Energy Program** is a self-sustaining department within the University. Operating much like a consulting firm, we provide expert technical assistance to help our customers address energy challenges.

Our Expertise

Public facilities support • Facilitate resource conservation management programs. Help schools and public facilities implement energy efficiency and indoor air quality improvements.

Building efficiency • Provide technical support on residential sections of the Washington State Energy Code. Design and evaluate energy-efficient homes. Support residential and small commercial energy efficiency retrofits and upgrades.

Industrial efficiency • Provide technical assistance to help industries maximize resource use efficiency. Lead the Northwest Clean Energy Application Center, promoting technologies and practices useful for industrial and commercial facilities.

Agricultural efficiency • Assess energy use in agricultural operations. Develop software to identify energy-saving opportunities on farms.

Renewable energy • Certify solar energy systems for state production incentives. Lead the Pacific Region Bioenergy Partnership. Research the use of biofuels and electric vehicles.

Software and IT services • Develop software to evaluate potential energy savings and greenhouse gas emissions reductions. Design and build websites and databases.

Research and evaluation • Identify and research new technologies that save energy. Research cost-effective ways to prepare biogas for use as vehicle fuel.

Energy information • Home to one of the nation's few full-service energy libraries.



IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Plant Operations Support Consortium

The Plant Operations Support Consortium, a self-sustaining program within the WSU Energy Program, connects facilities professionals with technical assistance, education, and guidance to enhance the efficiency and sustainability of public and nonprofit facilities.

State agencies, schools, higher education, ports, tribes, nonprofits, utilities and municipalities rely on the Consortium's on-call team of experts for solutions and suggestions in the following areas.

Energy Advisory Services

- Support ENERGY STAR Portfolio Manager
- Research and answer energy queries
- Perform audits and assessments
- Provide data tracking and interpretation

Facility Management

- Perform capital needs assessments
- Assist with or complete building condition assessments
- Assist with consultant selection and procurement
- Review design options and contracts
- Provide construction management

Custodial Operations Support

- Assess effectiveness of custodial programs
- Provide staff training
- Assist with workload and job card development
- Provide research and consultations

Equipment Brokering, Locating & Exchanging

For more information about the Consortium
Ed Valbert, Consortium Manager • 360-956-2055
Email: plantops@energy.wsu.edu
Website: www.energy.wsu.edu/PlantOperations

The Washington State Legislature requested the assistance of the Plant Operations Support Consortium to Inventory and Assess the Condition of Washington's Schools

Up-to-date information about the condition of our public school buildings will help elected officials make informed decisions about facilities that are essential to support basic education throughout the state. To achieve this goal, the Legislature provided funds to the WSU Energy Program to inventory and assess the condition of a sample of the state's public schools.

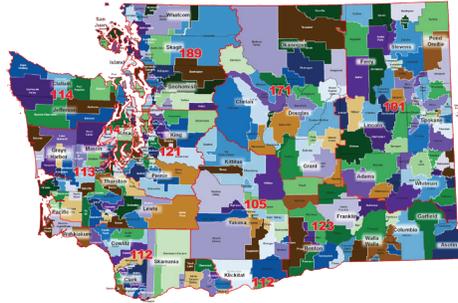
We are working with the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) to verify information that school districts have already entered into OSPI's database, called Inventory and Condition of Schools, or ICOS, or enter data if needed.

The Legislature is interested in school buildings and their condition

The Legislature tasked the WSU Energy Program's Plant Operations Support Consortium team, as a third-party ombudsman, to:

- Help schools with no or incomplete data in the ICOS system to submit their data.
- Verify the inventory, condition, classroom counts, and square footage of schools that are in the ICOS system.

The Legislature needs to know about the buildings used in the



K-12 public school system and their condition as it decides how to provide equivalent school facilities for children across Washington.

We are visiting school districts around the state

In selected school districts across the state, we will verify data already entered into ICOS and/or collect missing data and enter it into ICOS.

While on site, the efforts of the WSU team will vary depending on the school district and the information that is required. Those efforts could include counting all classrooms, measuring the square footage of entire buildings, completing conditions assessments on one or several buildings in a district, and/or verifying data that has already been entered into ICOS.

If you would like more information than the WSU team can provide, please contact OSPI's Regional Coordinators:

- **Eastern Region:** John Heinley, 360-725-6262
- **Northwest Region:** John McLaren, 360-725-0414
- **Southwest Region:** Justin Rogers, 360-725-6221

Why should school districts be excited about this?

The Legislature and OSPI recognize that they need up-to-date data to really understand what school districts need with regard to build-

ing capacity challenges and capital funding. This is the starting point for building long-term solutions for schools throughout the state.

School communities will have questions about what school districts want or need, and we encourage you to discuss your ideas and concerns when these questions are addressed by the Legislature and OSPI. The goal of this effort is to support those discussions with current data. With a foundational understanding of current school facilities, the Legislature can begin to connect with the people of Washington about the school facilities needed across the state.

The hard work school administrators have already done to provide information for ICOS is applauded and greatly appreciated. The WSU team is here to verify the data and make sure that it is entered and calculated in a consistent way.

WSU Energy Program: Our Mission

To advance environmental and economic well-being by providing unmatched energy services, products, education and information based on world-class research.

About Us

Our staff of energy engineers, energy specialists, technical experts, software developers, and energy research librarians works out of our Olympia, Spokane, and satellite offices. As part of the College of Agricultural, Human, and Natural Resource Sciences, we report directly to the Dean.

For More Information

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