RCM NEWS

RCM News for June 2022

A Newsletter for Resource Conservation Managers in the Northwest

In this issue:

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Clean Buildings Performance Standard Helpdesk

The Northwest Energy Efficiency Council (NEEC) and the Smart Buildings Center (SBC) are offering a Clean Buildings Performance Standard Helpdesk. The utility* sponsored service is providing technical assistance and coaching during office hours via phone, zoom/teams, and email. In addition, a resource webpage including training videos, FAQs, and other resources regarding the Standard is available. The webpage and the helpdesk information can be found at https://www.smartbuildingscenter.org/resources/clean-buildings-performance-standard/.

*Sponsoring utilities are Clark Public Utilities, Puget Sound Energy, Seattle City Light, Snohomish County PUD and Tacoma Power.

Incentives for RCMs and Energy Managers

If you are an RCM or energy manager in Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) public power utility territory, you may be eligible for certain incentives. BPA supports its public power utility partners in delivering energy efficiency throughout the Northwest. Starting on April 1, 2022, BPA updated the list of measures it supports to include several options for incentivizing energy management in commercial and industrial facilities. BPA's energy management offering has three optional elements, which are briefly described below (see 2022-RATE-PERIOD-IM.pdf (bpa.gov) for more detail):

1. **Energy Project Manager (EPM)** – This offering, which is available for RCMs and energy managers, provides a payment to help overcome on-site staffing resource barriers. The

payment is associated with development and implementation of an EPM Comprehensive Site Plan by a site's designated EPM, and which results in verified energy savings. The incentive payment available is up to $0.025/kWh of verified energy savings up to a max of $150,000 per site, per 2 year rate period.

2. **Strategic Energy Management (SEM)** – This offering is designed to acquire energy savings over the course of a two-year performance period by improving facilities' energy intensity through behavioral, operational, and maintenance improvements. Participants allocate personnel time and resources to engage in activities including energy management training, opportunity identification and implementation, and energy-use tracking, which result in SEM savings. Savings are primarily achieved through participant time and effort. Savings attributed to other program components are not attributable to SEM. The incentive payment is up to $0.025/kWh of SEM verified energy savings.
3. **Performance Tracking Systems (PTS)** – This offering provides a payment to help overcome data barriers. PTS payments are associated with the verified installation of metering hardware and/ or electric-energy data collection software that tracks key variables used to develop a meaningful, normalized energy-use profile. The initial PTS installation may be required prior to starting a SEM performance period or may be concurrent with a performance period. After the initial PTS setup payment, annual PTS maintenance payments are eligible. These maintenance payments cover annual services and other data barriers identified over the course of the SEM engagement. A PTS payment is an additional payment above and beyond other payments provided for verified energy savings (e.g., payments and savings associated with completed prescriptive/deemed measures, nonresidential lighting, SEM, and custom projects). The incentive payment is broken into 2 components: 1) Initial Installation of up to $15,000 and 2) Maintenance of up to $10,000 (every 2 years).

Reach out to your public utility to determine what energy efficiency incentives they offer, including any potential incentives for the energy management measures described above.

Early Adopter Incentive Program Funding

Funding is still available for eligible building owners who demonstrate early compliance with Washington state's Clean Buildings Performance Standard. Visit the Washington State Department of Commerce's Clean Buildings website for information on qualifications and how to apply.

State Project Improvement Grant

Key changes have been made to the Washington State Department of Commerce's State Project Improvement grant. These changes include an increase in the maximum funding amount, a pre-application consultation upon request, and an option to submit Phase I and Phase II at the same time. Grant funds cover the additional costs of more efficient project options. **Applications are due July 31, 2022.**

ARTICLES

Infrared Inspections

"How to Maximize Infrared Thermography for Top Facility Performance", written by Roy Huff for the June 2022 edition of *Facility Maintenance Decisions* discusses various ways that infrared inspection can

be used to optimize building performance, especially now that the equipment has become more affordable. The article provides tips for purchasing infrared cameras and how they can be used to inspect the building envelope, including low-slope roofs.

Integrated Lighting Systems

U.S. Department of Energy Better Buildings publication, "Case Study: Denver Water Recognized for Integrated Controls for HVAC and Lighting Systems", explores the use of a new lighting system to reduce energy use through increased temperature setbacks in unoccupied spaces. Although assessing savings from the upgrade have been delayed due to staffing changes caused by the pandemic, annual savings are estimated at 25,000 to 50,000 kWh. Various challenges to the project included sub-metering issues and viewing software.

Plug and Process Loads

Energy consumption of plug and process loads (PPLs) in U.S. commercial buildings is 47% of energy consumed and growing. A publication by the U.S. Department of Energy Better Buildings Alliance, "Fact Sheet: Automatic Type and Location Identification System for Commercial Plug Load Management", examines how PPLs can be controlled to lower their load. The Automatic Type and Location Identification System (ATLIS), developed by the National Renewable Energy Laboratory, works with smart, connected IoT devices to control their power use through a central database.

Smart Windows

Electrochromic windows and thermochromic windows are two types of smart windows whose energy efficiency comes from materials that dynamically change with light or heat. "What Will It Take for Smart Windows to Go Mainstream?" by Brittney J. Miller and published in *Smithsonian Magazine* June 9, 2022, examines the history of these windows, how they are constructed and how they function. There is research into how to lower their cost, which is high compared to other energy-efficient windows and prohibits widespread use.

Upcoming Events & Training Opportunities

➢ ALL EVENTS VIRTUAL UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED ➣

ENERGY STAR® and Portfolio Manager® Trainings

NOTE: Portfolio Manager 101, 201, and 301 trainings will now be every other month, starting in July. All are online webinars.

- Portfolio Manager 101 – July 6
- Portfolio Manager 201 – July 7
- Portfolio Manager 301 – July 12
- Beat the Peak: Using Water Wisely for Commercial Outdoor Space – July 13
- Ask the Expert – every other Wednesday at 9:00 AM Pacific time

Click here for more webinars and information

U.S. EPA ENERGY STAR

EV Champion Training Series

Continuation of a four-part training series providing skills and knowledge on electric vehicle implementation.

- Advanced Fleet Electrification – July 12

Click here for more webinars and information

U.S. DOE Federal Energy Management Program

Better Building Webinars

- Financing Solutions that Drive Energy Efficiency in the Water Nexus – July 12
- Shelter from the Storm: Powering Community Resilience Hubs – July 19
- Driving Decarbonization with 50001 Ready – July 26
- Breathe Easy: Indoor Air Quality in Education Spaces – July 28

Click here for more webinars and information

U.S. DOE Better Buildings

Decarbonizing the Northwest

Last of four virtual sessions from a webinar series

- Evolving Technologies Showcase – July 13

Click here for more webinars and information

NW Energy Coalition

Lighting Design Lab Webinars

Free online classes

- LIGHTFAIR 2022 Recap – July 14

Stay tuned for the fall schedule!

Click here for more webinars and information

Lighting Design Lab

Smart Buildings Exchange

Sessions include "Making Existing Buildings Smarter", "Building System Interoperability", "Data Analytics – Making Smart Actionable", and "Building Performance Reporting – How Smart Technology Can Help". Aug 22 and 23 are fully virtual; Aug 24 has one in-person and virtual session.

- Aug 22-24 – mostly virtual

Click here for more information

Smart Buildings Center

Fundamentals of Energy Efficient Building Operations

BOC course providing the basic principles of energy efficiency awareness and practices in commercial buildings. Six half-day classes.

- Sept 20 through Oct 20, 2022 via Zoom

Click here for more information

Building Operators Certification

Building Operators Certification

BOC Level I certification is 74 hours of training and project work in building systems maintenance. Level II certification is 61 hours of training and elective coursework in equipment troubleshooting and maintenance. Classes usually meet one or two full days a month over a period of four to six months.

All dates below are for the first class.

- Washington State
  - Level I classes
    - Sept 28, 2022 to Apr 6, 2023 for Washington residents via Zoom
  - Level II classes
    - Oct 26, 2022 to Mar 30, 2023 for Washington residents via Zoom

  Click here for BOC Washington State information
- Oregon
  - Level II will be available in 2023

  Click here for BOC Oregon information

Building Operators Certification, Northwest Water & Energy Education Institute

Getting to Zero Forum – Save the Date

- May 10-12, **2023** in Minneapolis + virtual

Click here for more information

New Buildings Institute

RESOURCES

Decarbonizing School Buildings

View presentations from the 2022 Better Buildings, Better Plants Summit, which took place May 17-19, 2022. These can be filtered by sector, topic, and partner. A few of the many presentations include "Communicating with Your Buildings Occupants", "Decarbonization Finance 101", "Lessons Learned from Water Savings Projects", and "Controls and Analytics for Small Buildings".

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Do you have newsletters, websites and links to share? Do you have RCM questions?

RCM News is always looking for interesting information, tips and resources to share with other resource conservation managers. Our goal is to increase your success by sharing what you and your colleagues are doing – with energy efficiency measures, problem-solving, communication, data tracking, presentations, and more. In addition, WSU Energy Program can help find solutions to your RCM program's technical and programmatic questions. Email Karen to share and ask!

Washington RCM Support

The Washington State University Energy Program provides RCM support. Check out the "RCMx" website: http://www.energy.wsu.edu/PublicFacilitiesSupport/ResourceConservation/RCMx.aspx. We appreciate any feedback on this site and would also appreciate items to add to our resources, such as tools, examples of policies and job descriptions.

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Previous issues of RCM News may be viewed at http://www.energy.wsu.edu/PublicationsandTools.aspx
(click on Resource Conservation in the right hand column).
We welcome comments or ideas for articles. Please send to Karen Janowitz - janowitzk@energy.wsu.edu