

RCM News for December 2024

A Newsletter for Resource Conservation Managers in the Northwest

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JOB ANNOUNCEMENT

City of Tacoma Hiring Principal Energy Management Engineer

Tacoma Power's Power Management division is looking for a Principal Energy Management Engineer to join their Business Customer Energy Solutions team. In this role you will develop and deliver energy conservation programs and secure energy efficiency measures with Tacoma Power's commercial and industrial customers by conducting engineering technical activities. This work is critical to achieving energy conservation targets and providing other energy-related services for the commercial and industrial sectors for Tacoma Power's Business Customer Energy Solutions section. [Read the full job description and apply on GovernmentJobs.com](#)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Clean Buildings Performance Grants Program

The [Clean Building Performance Grants](#) solicitation offers competitive funding for energy efficiency improvements in both private and public buildings working toward compliance with the Clean Buildings Performance Standard (CBPS). This [request for application](#) will cover the two categories of grants:

- \$25,000,000 for privately owned Tier 1 covered buildings
- \$15,427,000 for Tier 1 and Tier 2 publicly owned buildings

Grants will reimburse building owners for costs associated with projects and services that help building owners achieve CBPS compliance. The request for applications opens December 16 and runs through

Jan 30. Two Zoom conferences are scheduled where potential applicants can ask questions about the program and eligibility:

- Dec 19 – [register here](#)
- Jan 9 – [register here](#)

Confirmed dates will be announced on the Clean Buildings Performance Grants [website](#) and in the Clean Buildings Bulletin. **Please submit all questions or comments to:** CBPSGrants@commerce.wa.gov.

WA Department of Commerce Clean Buildings Office Hours

A dedicated space outside of scheduled trainings and workshops to ask questions and speak with others learning compliance to the Clean Buildings Standard.

- Jan 28 10:00 AM
- Feb 25 10:00 AM
- Mar 25 10:00 AM

[Click here to register](#)

Clean Buildings Accelerator and Incentive Programs

Many utilities and local jurisdictions offer incentive and accelerator programs across Washington state to assist with compliance of the Clean Buildings Performance Standard. Check the program in your territory below for announcements, dates, and other information. Please note that not all are free of charge and the latest programs may not yet be listed.

Accelerator Programs

- [Avista Clean Buildings Accelerator](#)
- [Pacific Power Washington Clean Buildings](#)
- [Puget Sound Energy Accelerator Program](#)
[Upcoming Accelerator Kickoff Dates](#)
Jan 8, Feb 19, Mar 26, May 21, Aug 20, and Sep 24
- [Seattle Clean Buildings Accelerator Program](#)
- Snohomish PUD
[Next Peer Cohort starts in Q1 2025](#)
- [Tacoma Power](#)

Incentive Programs – Bellevue & Issaquah

The Cities of [Bellevue](#) and [Issaquah](#) are helping large buildings reduce energy use, save on costs, and comply with WA State Clean Buildings Law. Free building energy services include energy benchmarking, scoping assessments, incentive navigation, and compliance reporting support.

- [Bellevue](#)
- [Issaquah](#)

ARTICLES

Why ESCO's Help Facility Managers Navigate Energy Projects

K-12 schools nationwide are facing a complex landscape of efficiency needs, limited funding capacity, and limited staffing all the while maintaining a healthy and safe environment for students and employees alike. Editor Dave Lubach explores issues discussed at a national energy services conference and ways that an Energy Services Company (ESCO) can help break through institutional roadblocks like staffing and funding with additional capacity and expertise, while providing mechanisms to reduce risk to the school such as Energy Service Performance Contracting, grant identification, and strategic project reviews. [Read more of Dave Lubach's December 2024 article "Why ESCOs Help Facility Managers Navigate Energy Projects" on FacilitiesNet here.](#)

Smart Lighting, Smarter Data

Luminaire Level Lighting Controls (LLLC's) are being deployed on many lighting and shading projects to improve efficiency by sensing when a space is being used and adjusting light levels accordingly. With new advancements in LLLC's allowing for wireless connectivity, easy system-wide management, and data collection abilities, facilities managers have new tools to improve building performance while maintaining occupant comfort. Lutron's Craig Casey discusses integration of advanced LLLCs and their benefits in a December 9, 2024 article in *EC&M Magazine*. "[Read Smart Lighting, Robust Data, Better Buildings" here.](#)

Case Study: The Integration of Wi-Fi Location-Based Services to Optimize Energy Efficient Commercial Building Operations

Commercial buildings still have plenty of opportunities for energy management, especially when you consider tracking occupancy through rooms and in real-time. Advanced lighting controls can integrate into building management systems, but technologies like this are just now making their way into facilities and can require significant capital investment. The Center for Energy and Environment (CEE) has researched new applications for a ubiquitous technology - WiFi. By utilizing a device's location services in combination with multiple Wireless Access Points (WAPs) and an open-source application, researchers have found they can determine presence, magnitude and location with significant accuracy- and translate that into energy savings. Researchers further demonstrate this innovation through deployment in three commercial facilities significant savings were realized. [Read a brief from CEE's Scott Hackel here](#) and the full 2024 case study "[The Integration of Wi-Fi Location-Based Services to Optimize Energy Efficient Commercial Building Applications](#)" by Lester S. Shen, Ph.D., et al, on *ResearchGate*.

UPCOMING EVENTS & TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

➤ ALL EVENTS VIRTUAL UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED ◀

Better Buildings Webinar Series

All are online webinars.

- The Heating System Balancing Act: Heat Pumps and Beyond – Jan 7

[Click here for more information](#)

ENERGY STAR® and Portfolio Manager® Trainings

All are online webinars.

- Portfolio Manager 101: Navigating Portfolio Manager, adding a New Property, and Entering Use Details – Jan 7
- Portfolio Manager 201: Editing Property Details, Data Quality Checker, and Sharing Property Data – Jan 9
- Portfolio Manager 301: Spreadsheet Uploads, Setting Goals, and Creating Custom Reporting Templates – Jan 14
- Benchmarking Properties with Offsite Renewable energy Generation – Jan 28
- Ask the Expert – every other Wednesday

[Click here for more webinars and information](#)

U.S. EPA ENERGY STAR

Lighting Design Lab Webinars

Free online classes

- Envelope Issues in 2021 WA & Seattle Commercial Energy Codes – Jan 23
- Save on Refrigeration – How to Optimize Commercial and Industrial Refrigeration – Jan 28

[Click here for more information and to register](#)

Lighting Design Lab

Free Building Operator Certification Informational Webcast

Learn more about the BOC Program. Free BOC Informational Webcast: or watch a free recorded BOC Informational webcast here.

- Feb 5 – [register](#)

Or watch a free 60-minute recorded information webcast [here](#).

The BOC

BOC Certification Classes

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 four to six months.

Washington State

- Early 2025 Level I Class in Spokane
Jan 15 to Apr 16
Registration deadline for this course is Dec 30, 2024
- Spring 2025 Level I Classes via Zoom
Feb 26 to Jun 5
- Summer 2025 in Seattle – dates TBA
- Fall 2025 vis Zoom – dates TBA

[Click here for BOC Washington State information](#)

Oregon

- Spring 2025 Level I Class via Zoom
Apr 10 to Oct 9
- Spring 2025 Level II Class via Zoom
Mar 13 to Aug 21

[Click here for BOC Oregon information](#)

National Fundamentals of Energy Efficient Building Operations

BOC course provides the basic principles of energy efficiency awareness and practices in commercial buildings. Six half-day classes for those seeking a foundational understanding of building systems and who have less than a year of experience in the field or are looking to start a career in facilities or energy management.

- Mar 5 – Apr 3 via Zoom – [register here](#)

[Click here for more information](#)

Building Operators Certification

WAMOA

- Leadership Seminar – Mar 20-21, 2025, in Leavenworth, WA

[Click here for more information](#)

Washington Association of Maintenance and Operation Administrators

Washington Association of School Business Officials

- 2025 Facilities Workshop – Online – Mar 19 & Mar 26

[Click here for more information and to register](#)

WASBO

National Facilities Management and Technology Conference and Expo

- Mar 25-27, 2025, in Baltimore, MD

[Click here for more information](#)

National Facilities Management & Technology

Getting to Zero Forum – Save the Date

- Apr 22-24, 2025, in Los Angeles, CA

[Click here for more information](#)

New Buildings Institute

2025 Better Buildings, Better Plants Summit – Save the Date

- Apr 30 to May 2, 2025, in Washington, D.C.

[Click here for more information](#)

U.S. Department of Energy, Better Buildings

Northwest Facilities EXPO

- May 14-15, 2025, in Portland, OR
[Click here for more information](#)

RESOURCES

Clean Buildings Performance Standard Document Library

The Clean Buildings Performance Standard (CBPS) has a helpful webpage listing guides, flowcharts, and tools to facilitate accurate interpretation of the CBPS. These documents are available on the [CBPS Document Library webpage](#). New to the Library this month are four new guidance documents:

- [Calculating Weekly Hours](#)
- [Campus-Level Guidance](#)
- [Connected Buildings Guidance](#)
- [Condominium Guidance](#)

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 the RCM team](#) 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 email to RCM@energy.wsu.edu.

