



**SEE Action**  
STATE & LOCAL ENERGY EFFICIENCY ACTION NETWORK

## Resources for State Energy Officials

### Introduction

Energy efficiency represents one of our nation's largest untapped energy resources. Investing in efficiency creates jobs and strengthens states' economic competitiveness in the global economy by lowering the cost of living and doing business, as well as providing significant public health and environmental benefits. Numerous studies have found that investing in cost-effective energy efficiency improvements could result in savings of hundreds of billions of dollars nationally over the next 10 to 15 years<sup>1,2</sup>—dollars that can be reinvested to help speed our economic recovery. As federal funding from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act winds down, state programs and policies will play a critical role in utilizing energy efficiency to drive economic development in their communities and across the nation.

The **State and Local Energy Efficiency Action Network (SEE Action)** is developing and providing tools and information to empower **state energy officials (SEOs)** to develop and implement effective energy efficiency programs. These tools and materials are being developed across eight working groups comprised of representatives from state and local governments, associations, business leaders, and non-government organizations and have been identified as critical to achieving near- and long-term goals to capture all cost-effective energy efficiency by 2020. Resources are posted on the SEE Action website ([www.seeaction.energy.gov](http://www.seeaction.energy.gov)) as they become available.

The tools and materials are summarized by category:

- Measuring and verifying savings
- Financing mechanisms
- Building energy codes
- Residential, commercial, and industrial sector efficiency policies and programs
- Consumer behavior programs
- Combined heat and power.

### Key Points

- SEE Action is a state and local effort facilitated by the federal government to help stakeholders take energy efficiency to scale.
- SEE Action is developing a broad portfolio of tools and resources for state energy officials to apply towards the implementation of energy efficiency policies and programs.
- Resources offered by SEE Action include best practices, model policies, and other educational materials.
- **For more information:**  
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### About SEE Action

*The State and Local Energy Efficiency Action Network (SEE Action) is a state and local effort facilitated by the federal government that helps states, utilities, and other local stakeholders take energy efficiency to scale and achieve all cost-effective energy efficiency by 2020.*

<sup>1</sup>National Action Plan for Energy Efficiency. 2008. *National Action Plan for Energy Efficiency Vision for 2025: A Framework for Change*. [www.epa.gov/eeactionplan](http://www.epa.gov/eeactionplan).

<sup>2</sup>McKinsey Global Energy and Materials. 2009. *Unlocking Energy Efficiency in the U.S. Economy*. [www.mckinsey.com/client-service/electricpower/naturalgas/downloads/US\\_energy\\_efficiency\\_full\\_report.pdf](http://www.mckinsey.com/client-service/electricpower/naturalgas/downloads/US_energy_efficiency_full_report.pdf).

## Measuring and Verifying Energy Savings

Energy efficiency programs and policies will benefit from more standardized, consistent, and transparent approaches to measuring savings. Uniform methods will allow program administrators and policymakers to assess energy efficiency programs with confidence. SEE Action resources include:

- **Model Energy Efficiency Program Impact Evaluation Guide** will provide an update of the 2007 National Action Plan for Energy Efficiency document with the same title. The guide has been widely used by state, commission, and utility staff new to evaluation, measurement, and verification (EM&V). Edits to the guide will include a new structured approach to EM&V, updates to best practices, and topics requested by current users (*Evaluation, Measurement, and Verification Working Group; original guide available online, update expected October 2012*).
- **Evaluation, Measurement, and Verification (EM&V) Webinar Series**, organized by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), provides ongoing support for state energy officials and others. Topics include both fundamental information (“Energy Efficiency Measurement and Verification Basics for State Officials”) as well as current hot topics (“Incorporating the Efficiency Resource into State and Regional Energy Resource Plans”) (*Evaluation, Measurement, and Verification Working Group; webinars ongoing, information online*).

## Financing Mechanisms

State energy officials can engage in a range of financing efforts to help leverage appropriated funds and expand the impact of efficiency programs. Information is being developed to identify barriers to energy efficiency financing, document successful financing programs and offer best practices. SEE Action Resources include:

- **Report on the energy efficiency financing needs of financial institutions and customers** will provide a detailed needs analysis based on interviews and data gathered from capital providers, originators, commercial and residential customers, and service providers that will provide guidance on energy efficiency finance structures (*Financing Solutions Working Group; technical report, expected September 2012*).
- **A Financing Models Toolkit** will provide analysis and information on financing products, on-bill finance structures, credit enhancement structures, and other means for leveraging capital to finance energy efficiency programs (*Financing Solutions Working Group; expected December 2012*).

## Residential, Commercial, and Industrial Sector Efficiency Policy and Program Design

State energy officials designing or implementing building efficiency programs, whether in the residential, commercial, or industrial sector, can benefit from a better understanding of successful elements and strategies that have been used to realize cost-effective energy savings. Information specific to each of these unique classes of buildings can assist SEOs in finding the right balance of investment in each sector. SEE Action Resources include:

- **Moderate Income Residential Program Design** (Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory) provides SEOs with options to consider for the design and development of residential efficiency programs for households that are not eligible for low-income programs, but cannot fully afford the initial costs of upgrades (*Residential Retrofit Working Group; recommended resource, available online*).
- **Industrial Energy Efficiency Best Practice Programs and Policies Guide** will inform program administrators and implementers, commissioners, policymakers, and industrial end-users on effective industrial efficiency programs (*Industrial Energy Efficiency and Combined Heat and Power Working Group; technical report, expected September 2012*).
- **Energy Benchmarking, Rating, and Disclosure for State Governments (fact sheet and policy design guide)** provides information on how access to energy usage data can help state governments lead by example by benchmarking and disclosing their results, as well as adopting and implementing benchmarking policies for the private sector (*Existing Commercial Buildings Working Group; fact sheet and policy design guide available online*).
- **Retro-Commissioning for State and Local Governments** describes the benefits of retro-commissioning for both public and private commercial buildings, and provides details on how to implement a retro-commissioning policy, with examples for state programs already underway (*Existing Commercial Buildings Working Group; fact sheet, available online*).

- **Energy Management for State and Local Governments** provides SEOs with information on how state energy management programs can bring down energy use, and details on elements of programs that are currently being implemented in several states (*Existing Commercial Buildings Working Group; fact sheet, available online*).
- **High-Performance Leasing for State and Local Governments** describes the value of high-performance or “green leasing,” and the steps states can take to lead by example with high-performance leasing as well as encouraging private sector adoption (*Existing Commercial Buildings Working Group; fact sheet, available online*).

### Combined Heat and Power (CHP)

Combined heat and power offers significant potential for reducing commercial and industrial energy use. With the right combination of policies and incentive programs, SEOs can promote this tool for capturing cost-effective energy efficiency. SEE Action Resources include:

- **Guide to the Successful Implementation of State CHP Policies** will inform program administrators and implementers, commissioners, policymakers and industrial end-users on effective combined heat and power programs (*Industrial Energy Efficiency and Combined Heat and Power Working Group; technical report, expected August 2012*).
- **Discussion Summaries from Regional Utility-Manufacturing Workshops** will summarize workshop discussions that engage stakeholders to address industrial efficiency, combined heat and power, and waste heat recovery issues, and barriers to investing in these areas (*Industrial Energy Efficiency and Combined Heat and Power Working Group; first summary expected July 2012, information on additional workshops available online*).
- **Industrial Energy Efficiency and Combined Heat and Power Webinar Series** brings together program administrators and industry to discuss overcoming barriers to participation in existing industrial energy efficiency and CHP existing and model programs (*Industrial Energy Efficiency and Combined Heat and Power Working Group; webinars began January 2012, information available online*).

### Consumer Behavior Programs

A variety of programs are underway to provide energy usage information to consumers to help them make more informed decisions about how to reduce their energy consumption. Information being developed and collected will help SEOs understand the effectiveness of different consumer behavior programs. SEE Action Resources include:

- **Evaluation, Measurement, and Verification (EM&V) of Residential Behavior-Based Energy Efficiency Programs: Issues and Recommendations** offers technically valid methods for estimating the energy savings from behavior-based energy efficiency programs (*Customer Information and Behavior and Evaluation, Measurement and Verification Working Groups; technical report, available online*).
- **Overview of Residential Energy Feedback and Behavior-Based Energy Efficiency** (Energy and Environmental Economics, Inc.) provides a reference document for state energy officials on behavior-based energy efficiency (*Customer Information and Behavior Working Group; recommended resource, available online*).

### For More Information

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To view any of the available resources listed here, please visit [www.seeaction.energy.gov/resources.html](http://www.seeaction.energy.gov/resources.html).

Disclaimer:

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