

Superior Energy Performance Demonstration Projects

Characteristics of Participating Facilities

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) launched regional and state Superior Energy Performance (SEP) Demonstration Projects across the nation starting in 2009, with the last of these projects launching in January 2012. State and regional teams are working with manufacturing facilities to test SEP program requirements before the program's scheduled launch later in 2012. The following list describes characteristics of the facilities that were selected to participate in these SEP Demonstration Projects.

1. **Willingness to allocate resources to energy management.**

A strong senior-level commitment to allocate resources to energy management enables a facility to invest time and resources to the demonstration project. Top facility managers are asked to commit facility personnel time and resources to attend trainings and implement the ISO 50001 energy management system standard. A designated management representative(s) is expected to participate in quarterly webinars with trainers to review progress. Depending on site size and complexity, estimated internal staff time required to adequately support implementation of the energy management system is 0.5 to 1 full-time equivalent (multiple people) over the 2-year implementation period.

2. **Prior implementation of a management system (e.g., ISO 9001 (quality), ISO 14001 (environmental), ISO 22000 (food safety), OHSAS 18001 (health and safety), etc.)**

Facilities that already have a certified management system in place were selected because they possess internal understanding of the types of requirements and commitment needed to be successful in implementing ISO 50001 and SEP. In addition, at least one SEP team member at the facility is expected to have an understanding of the existing internal management systems processes and procedures.

3. **Commitment to workforce development and budget allocation to training and education.**

A key part of implementing an energy management system is integrating knowledgeable facility personnel into the process. Participating companies are asked to allow staff members to attend trainings and implement the activities at the facility.

4. **Willingness to pursue Superior Energy Performance certification.**

The final step for testing the SEP certification requirements is participation in a third-party audit to verify that the facility has met SEP requirements. An ANSI-ANAB accredited SEP Verification Body will review records related to the facility's energy performance and determine conformance to ISO 50001 and the resulting improvement in energy performance. A minimum of 5% improvement in energy performance must be supported by a minimum of 48 months of facility energy consumption data. Costs for auditing are borne by the facility or other third parties, such as state or utility assistance programs (where available).