Technical Assistance for Energy Intensive Manufacturers

The U.S. DOE's Industrial Energy and Decarbonization Office (IEDO) wants to support energy-intensive manufacturers in improving energy performance, carbon intensity, and competitiveness in their plants and mills.

What is this Initiative About?

Energy-intensive manufacturers have significant potential to improve energy performance and reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions.

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) seeks to engage with manufacturers from energy-intensive industrial sectors to better understand the specific needs and issues of such manufacturers. DOE will offer an array of resources from its industrial technical assistance programs to companies within energy-intensive sectors.

The initiative seeks to:

- Make it easier for energy-intensive industrial companies to save energy and decarbonize by facilitating collaboration with DOE
- Hear from energy-intensive manufacturers on what resources will be most helpful to inform future technical assistance offerings

Why Participate?

In addition to improving their sustainability profile, organizations that participate can get help on controlling energy costs and receive unbiased technical assistance on energy efficiency and decarbonization. Participants will also be able to network with peers, gain access to innovation through DOE's national laboratories, and receive help in validating their sustainability accomplishments. DOE will highlight successes through case studies and other mechanisms. The initiative also offers facilities an opportunity to provide insight around potential offerings for a subsequent permanent program structure.

Participating Manufacturers will

- Work with DOE to identify energy efficiency and carbon reduction measures, test resources, and track progress
- Share best practices and lessons learned with DOE
- Provide insight on types of technical assistance with high potential for uptake among sectors

What will DOE Provide?

Through this two-year initiative, DOE will trial a wide range of technical assistance resources – including energy/decarbonization assessments, specialized trainings on industrial systems and energy-related topics, and technology validations and demonstrations – while soliciting feedback from energy-intensive manufacturers on what they would find most valuable on an ongoing basis. In addition, DOE will facilitate peer-based learning opportunities, scenario planning activities, financial research, case studies, and access to R&D planning and resources across other relevant DOE offices. Participating facilities will be able to choose from a set of resources based on their needs and interest. For more information, visit https://eiipilot.ornl.gov/.

How to Get Started?

Interested manufacturers can contact Robert Lung at Robert.Lung@ee.doe.gov or Zachary Pritchard at Zachary.pritchard@ee.doe.gov

Frequently Asked Questions

Who qualifies to participate?

This initiative is open to energy-intensive industrial facilities with annual energy consumption greater than 2 TBtu. The term "energy-intensive industry" means an industrial sector that has a significant energy footprint as part of its operational activities. The U.S. Energy Information Administration classifies the following industries as energy-intensive:

- Food (food and beverage manufacturing)
- Pulp and paper (paper manufacturing, printing, and related support activities)
- Chemicals (inorganic chemicals, organic chemicals (e.g., ethylene propylene), resins, and agricultural chemicals; includes chemical feedstocks)
- Iron and steel (iron and steel manufacturing, including coke ovens)
- Nonferrous metals (primarily aluminum and other nonferrous metals, such as copper, zinc, and tin)
- Nonmetallic minerals (primarily cement and other nonmetallic minerals, such as glass, lime, gypsum, and clay products)

Reach out to DOE if you have questions about whether your facility qualifies to participate.

What resources are available to each facility?

Each facility is eligible to choose from a set of resources from three categories: assessments, workforce training, and technology planning. DOE and national laboratory experts are available to help facilities determine which resources will be of greatest benefit.

Is there a partnership agreement associated with participation?

No. However, participating facilities will agree to provide feedback on programmatic offerings and information about measures implemented from assessments.

Can partners in DOE's existing programs participate?

Yes. Better Plants partners should work with their Technical Account Manager (TAM) to apply energy or carbon savings achieved through this pilot. Also, companies/organizations working with 50001 Ready, SEP, IAC assessments and CHP TAPs are eligible to participate.

What information will I be asked to provide?

DOE will ask about energy footprint information, energy efficiency and decarbonization strategies and other elements that enable DOE to develop programs that will yield value to manufacturers from energy-intensive sectors.

Will DOE share my information?

No. Any and all information and data collected will be treated confidentially. Any case studies and publicly-facing materials will be submitted to each participating company for approval before being made public.

Will facilities receive recognition for participating?

This initiative is not intended to provide recognition. Companies that are interested in recognition may get recognized if they wish in materials like case studies or trade publications. Additional opportunities for recognition exist in DOE's Better Plants, 50001 Ready, or SEP 50001 programs. If a participating company wishes to be recognized, DOE will work with them to identify the appropriate mechanism and timeframe.