

Client Enrichment Series

Energy and Conservation Standards Q & As



Question #1: Is this program available for agencies to track their own leased/owned buildings?
(Reference to First Fuel)

Answer:

The First Fuel data portal is available for client agencies to access at www.firstfuel.com.

Question #2: In some states natural gas is plentiful and may have a fairly low cost versus a total electric solution. Should GSA have incentives for using natural gas heating in the buildings, hot water, etc.?

Answer:

In considering the solution during the design of a building, calculations are performed to consider the efficiency of various energy sources. EO13514 requires consideration of the origin of electricity, not just the cost. BTU content complicates the solution.

Question #3: As stated GSA has started metering. In which buildings is it being implemented and will it eventually be in all regional buildings?

Answer:

Currently 450 buildings in the GSA owned inventory are now being metered. Due to the return on investment, not all buildings will be good candidates.

Question #4: I really would like to know how I can get this data for our buildings, especially the graphs showing usage.

Answer:

Some federal buildings will have lobby kiosks to share building energy data. Throughout the inventory, 50 kiosks will be coming online in June 2013. Also, GSA building managers and 'Green Teams' should have data available to share with tenants.

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Question #5: Is the First Fuel Tool Energy Assessment enough for DOE CTS compliance?

Answer:

Yes. This is an accepted approach and has proven to be a more economical methodology.

Question #6: What is the nature of the huge decrease in Region 11's reduction in energy use?

Answer:

The variance for the National Capital Region (R11) is due in large part to the existence of many very large buildings which provided great reduction opportunities as well as the installation of several large co-generation plants. DOE has also agreed that we can apply energy source credits. Effectively, there has been a huge drop in energy consumption against the 2003 baseline.

Question #7: Can my agency pay for energy infrastructure improvements to a GSA owned facility?

Answer:

Typically client agencies do not fund infrastructure improvements to GSA buildings. There are opportunities for client agencies to invest in energy conservation through purchase choices (computers, appliances, desk lamps, etc.).

Question #8: What is the name of the company you contracted with to do your (no site visit) EISA assessments and what was the contracting vehicle you used to reach them?

Answer:

Rapid Building Energy Assessments are conducted by First Fuel. GSA awarded the First Fuel contract under a competitive small business best value solicitation.