Energy Efficiency Leadership Framework: Overcoming Barriers to Unlock Energy and Cost Savings

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Agenda

• Barriers
• Energy Efficiency Leadership Framework
• Goals
• Input to-Date
• Top Barriers
• Group Discussion
Barriers

High staff turnover?
State Energy Office (SEO) Directors
- 75% in their position ≤ 5 yrs.
- 33% in their position ≤ 1 yr.

Struggling to get people to use your program?
- ~39% of SEOs state that “program uptake” is a top barrier

Limited staff capacity?
- 35 SEOs have ≤ 15 full time employees (FTEs)

Difficulty navigating financing programs?
- ~33% of state reported barriers fall into the “establish financing” category
Energy Efficiency Leadership Framework
Goals

(1) Make **SOLUTIONS** and replicable models **MORE ACCESSIBLE**

(2) **IDENTIFY GAPS** where **ADDITIONAL RESOURCES** or technical assistance needed

(3) Enable **STRATEGIC PLANNING** of **TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE** that is responsive to your most impactful needs
Results

Maximize energy and cost savings
(1) Make Solutions More Accessible

Leadership Framework: Structure

Solution: Energy Savings Performance Contracting for Water Resource Recovery Facilities

This resource provides the business case for wastewater facility owners to consider Energy Savings Performance Contracts (ESPCs) as an option to finance energy efficiency upgrades and provides core resources to take the next steps to initiate a project.

Barrier: Unclear how to tailor financing mechanism to project type

Stepping Stone: Understand and Select Financing

Solution Pathway: Establish Financing
(1) Make Solutions More Accessible (cont.)

An interactive, online platform that is:

- Easily accessible
- Highly navigable
- Searchable by barrier and other factors

Graphic Source: Icon Finder
(2) Identify Gaps

Technical Assistance Opportunities
(3) Enable Strategic Planning of TA

Wastewater Treatment

- ~35% of municipal energy budgets
- 25% to 40% of annual operating budgets

Sustainable Wastewater of the Future (SWIFt) Accelerator

- 30%+ energy savings
- 70+ wastewater facilities across 20 states
- 28+ wastewater tools and resources
Reporting from all 50 states

Interviews with 40+ local governments

25+ requests from K-12 school districts

Input to-Date
Top Barriers Identified by States in:

- Empower Organization
- Establish Financing
- Design Programs and Initiatives
- Implement Data Management
Top State Barriers Empower Organization

Competing priorities for staff resources

“There are no staff to help me. I work on projects by myself”
Top State Barriers Establish Financing

Need more information to determine economic feasibility

“How do I find the right financing mechanism to get the proper results for my projects?”
Top State Barriers Implement Data Management

Data management is not an organizational priority

“How and where do I start? Who should I talk to when I have no access to leadership?”
Top State Barriers Design Programs and Initiatives

Less understanding of target market and/or sector needs

“I’m trying to do a program for low-income households, but I don’t think my office knows what low-income households need and want.”
What Is Essential for Success?

YOU
What Keeps You up at Night?

What could make a difference?

If you had a magic wand, what would you wish for?

What hasn’t worked?
“What if your challenges are not really problems or barriers ... but actually pathways”

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