



Energy Assessment



Why Schedule an Energy Assessment?

A major law passed by state lawmakers 10 years ago temporarily capped electric rates. Those caps are about to come off. At the end of 2009 and 2010, rates for PPL and Met-Ed will be set by the open energy market. Energy costs in our region will rise dramatically almost 30% in the near term.

Up to June 30, 2007, the Manufacturers Resource Center (MRC) and Lehigh University's Industrial Assessment Center are **offering a free energy assessment**. We will use this pilot program to gauge the interest among small and mid-sized manufacturers in reducing their energy costs and utilizing new methods and technologies.

Many processes can be changed or alternate methods can be used with sufficient cost savings in the short term that results in a quick payback period. Currently there are tax advantages to make process improvements. Call your MRC agent to get the details.

Purpose of the Energy Assessment

To recommend ways to Conserve Energy, Reduce Waste, Enhance Productivity and Reduce Costs.

Energy assessments are offered to manufacturers in SIC codes 2000-3999. The recommendations are targeted primarily at six energy processes: HVAC, motor, steam, compressed air, lighting, and process waste systems. The **no-cost** energy assessments are provided to manufacturers through funding provided by the U.S. Department of Energy as a part of a national program to reduce energy requirements and therefore energy costs for small and mid-sized industries.

The Assessment Process

1. Pre-Assessment Analysis

Preliminary information about the manufacturing facility is collected prior to the actual on-site energy assessment including a list of plant energy consuming equipment and annual utility bills (electricity, natural gas and fuel oil).

2. On-Site Visit

An Energy Analyst will conduct a one-day on-site visit to study the manufacturing processes, interview key executives and managers, and make energy, material waste, and productivity related measurements.

3. Assessment Report

Following the plant visit, the Energy Analyst spends time researching, evaluating, and developing preliminary opportunities. Ideas that surface energy savings are combined in an Assessment Report that is sent to the client within two to four weeks. The Assessment Report includes total estimated cost savings, implementation costs and payback time for each action recommended.

4. Follow Up Survey

Six months after the assessment, a follow-up survey is sent to the key contact executive or plant manager to learn which of the recommendations were implemented and to learn the details of each of the recommended implementations. Additional follow-up surveys are scheduled if deemed necessary.

How Can You Schedule a No-Cost Energy Assessment?

Contact your MRC Account Manager with a convenient date for your plant and the Energy Analyst will be scheduled. Remember this is a trial program due to expire June 30. Requests for audits will be handled and conducted on a first come, first serve basis.