



Taking campus energy management to the next level

THE NEED

TVA sought an energy efficiency program that would cultivate long-term partnerships with universities across their seven state service territory and result in organizational shifts toward persistent energy savings. The program needed to institutionalize energy and resource management as a strategic priority on campuses while shaping the next generation workforce.

OUR APPROACH

Using the University of Tennessee – Knoxville as a pilot site, we combined a top-down methodology, leveraging organizational and behavior change best practices, with a bottom-up focus on building energy performance. This allowed TVA to navigate the complexity of a campus environment and identify key opportunities and challenges for Strategic Energy Management (SEM). Our holistic approach guided the campus through an organization-wide planning process that resulted in a 10-year SEM Roadmap. This effort included conducting building operator training sessions; developing tools, templates, best practices briefs and case studies from other universities; and organizing a cost-share financial incentive system.

THE RESULTS

The program engages a diverse set of stakeholders to identify opportunities for greater savings and persistence. By training engineers, influencing curriculum, modifying job descriptions and employee onboarding, and developing financing vehicles, this program creates an enduring focus on SEM with measurable results beyond a single building.



QUESTIONS

Ask John Silkey, MSc
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