



# INVESTOR CONFIDENCE PROJECT

## ENERGY PERFORMANCE PROTOCOL STANDARD COMMERCIAL

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## INVESTOR CONFIDENCE PROJECT

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The Environmental Defense Fund (EDF) developed the Investor Confidence Project (ICP) with participation from leading industry and engineering experts. It establishes an Energy Efficiency Project Framework (EPPF) that defines the key elements of a successful energy efficiency retrofit and is designed to house a series of sector-specific Energy Performance Protocols (EPP). These protocols define engineering best practice for energy efficiency projects, providing stable, predictable and reliable savings outcomes that enable greater private investment through a more efficient and transparent marketplace.

Through adoption as a standard approach by market actors and programs, these Energy Performance Protocols will help to encourage deal flow and market efficiencies by enabling networks of project originators, such as engineering firms, facility managers, contractors, energy service companies and portfolio owners, to develop potential energy efficiency projects and bring those projects to a marketplace of energy service companies, insurers, financial institutions, and utility programs without the need for repetitive and costly additional engineering steps. The output of project development in accordance with a Protocol is a set of standard engineering documents (similar to an appraisal package), which will allow market entities to dramatically streamline project underwriting processes related to project performance.

Over time, the ICP Energy Performance Protocols makes possible an actuarial data-set with sufficient detail to provide insight into project performance risk, and the ability to manage that risk based on the multitude of factors throughout the project workflow, ranging from initial audit to ongoing operations and maintenance.

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### ENERGY PERFORMANCE PROTOCOL – STANDARD COMMERCIAL

This protocol focuses on commercial buildings, which are among the most energy use-intensive structures and because they tend to exhibit relatively consistent usage patterns. The protocols are intended for:

- **Standard Projects**, multiple measure projects costing typically under \$1MM and therefore engineering requirements must be scaled to fit performance risk
- **High Performing Projects**, projects where the projected energy savings typically cover the project investment cost

The EPP - Standard Commercial allows for the use of various open-book calculation methods, and rely on partial and full measurement and verification of the energy use and system(s) to which an energy conservation measure (ECM) was applied (Option A: *Retrofit Isolation: Key Parameter Measurement* and Option B: *Retrofit Isolation: All Parameter Measurement*). However, these approaches may not be appropriate for buildings requiring a more holistic approach, and may require the use of an energy model to determine energy savings, as well as an Option C: *Whole Facility* approach for measurement and verification of savings. In this case, the [EPP-Large Commercial Protocol](#) should be used for these specific components of project development, or in its entirety.

The Energy Performance Protocols are intended as base minimum requirements for an investment quality analysis and best practices to maintain, measure and verify the energy savings, not an exhaustive

treatment of all possible techniques. Each section of the document establishes these minimum requirements and offers additional methods and tools that can be used to improve the reliability of savings estimation and measurement. Until the protocols have been applied and tested, it is not possible to gauge the magnitude of the impact of these additional processes and tools on the confidence interval around savings projection. A checklist provided as part of this document is intended for inclusion in project documents. Providers are asked to self-certify that they have fulfilled the requirements listed and to indicate what additional methods they applied.

This document will evolve over time. Some methods may move from an “additional” or “recommended” category to a standard requirement. Others may prove insignificant for accuracy of projections relative to the time and effort they require. A scoring system may also be introduced to weight the importance of different components and provide an overall investment confidence score for potential energy efficiency projects. Members of the ICP invite engineers, building owners, software developers, prospective lenders and investors, and others to participate in testing and improving these protocols by applying them to retrofit projects and sharing their results.

As results justify and resources allow, the ICP will expand to develop protocols for additional building types and use cases.

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## **ENERGY EFFICIENCY PROJECT FRAMEWORK**

The EEP Framework is divided into five categories, which together are designed to represent the entire lifecycle of a well-conceived and well-executed energy efficiency project:

1. **Baselining**
  - a Core Requirements
  - b Rate Analysis, Demand, Load Profile, Interval Data
2. **Savings Calculation**
3. **Design, Construction, and Commissioning**
4. **Operations, Maintenance, and Monitoring**
5. **Measurement and Verification (M&V)**

For each category, the protocol establishes minimum requirements, including:

- **Required Elements**
- **Required Procedures**
- **Required Documentation**

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## BASELINING – CORE REQUIREMENTS

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A sound energy usage baseline provides a critical starting point for accurate projection of potential energy savings as well as for measurement after retrofits and / or retro-commissioning. The baseline must establish how much fuel and electricity a building can be expected to use over a representative 12-month period. It should also factor in the impact of independent variables such as weather, occupancy, and operating hours on the building's energy use.

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### REQUIRED ELEMENTS

- **Historical Energy Usage:** Following the [ASTM E2797-11 Building Energy Performance Assessment](#) (BEPA) standard methodology, collect 36 months (or a minimum of 14 months of energy usage data when 36 months is unavailable) for all meters and energy accounts for end-uses to be retrofitted in the building, with a goal of accounting for 100% of energy sources, from which a 12-month period will be selected as the basis for all analysis. For non-metered fuel types either install sub-metering, or utilize billing or other usage data to estimate energy use. Note any renovation affecting greater than 10% of gross floor area, or a change that affects estimated total building energy use by greater than 10%, i.e. “major renovation.”
- **End-use Energy Usage:** Use end-use energy usage to create boundaries and reality checks associated with energy savings estimates and total energy consumption of the baseline case. Sub-metering can be used to assess the energy consumption associated with each end-use associated with the anticipated ECMs, or calculations performed to estimate end-use energy usage. In lieu of sub-metering or calculations, resources can be employed such as the Commercial Buildings Energy Consumption Survey ([CBECS](#)) to estimate end-use energy usage, based on building characteristics and region, applied to the total historical energy consumption of the building.
- **Weather Data:** For the defined 12-month baseline period, acquire weather data from the closest weather station, or on-site measurement, at the time interval coinciding with the interval of the energy usage. Typically, this will incorporate daily minimum and maximum dry bulb temperatures from the National Weather Service to be used to derive heating and cooling degree days and average daily temperatures for each day.
- **Baseline Operational/Performance Data:** System performance data used to inform the energy savings calculations. These data can be collected through interviews, review of building documentation (as-built plans, controls sequences, etc.), observation, spot measurements, short-term monitoring, and functional performance tests.
- **Building Asset Data:** Accurate gross floor area (following [ANSI/BOMA Z65.3-2009](#)) and system and material specifications/inventories based on building drawings, following the ASTM E2797-11 Building Energy Performance Assessment (BEPA) Standard methodology. This information is needed as a reference for any future adjustments to the building asset that may be made.

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## REQUIRED PROCEDURES

1. Gather energy data, operational/performance data, and building asset data. Identify which independent variables are considered the most important, based on the building type and space uses.
2. Normalize the independent variable data to the same time interval that aligns with the defined baseline period.
3. Develop baseline regression model using the ASTM E2797-11 Building Energy Performance Assessment Standard methodology or the [ASHRAE Inverse Modeling Toolkit](#) and following [ASHRAE Guideline 14-2002](#).
4. Identify any factors apart from weather and occupancy that affect the baseline more than expected savings (in percentage) and by roughly what magnitude.
5. Create a list of specific routine adjustment factors to be applied in a future measurement and verification process, noting also the types of potential non-routine adjustments that may be required.

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## REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION

- Weather data (containing heating and cooling degree day and average daily temperature data for site as described above).
- The start and end dates of the 12 month baseline period and why that period was chosen.
- Full energy data as a computer-readable file, including:
  - Raw meter readings: from date and to date, in energy-unit value, energy usage charges (\$), demand quantities and demand charges (\$); energy sources must be consolidated to a set of 12 monthly periods common for all energy sources.
  - Dataset must cover all forms of purchased energy and energy produced on-site that are part of the baseline. Where applicable this will include aggregated tenant data or an approximation of tenant energy use, as well as descriptions of the metering and sub-metering of energy in the building, and how energy costs are paid by building occupants.
  - Provide a brief description of how periods are consolidated to the 12 monthly periods applied. Dates of meter reading periods will vary from one energy source to another. Leverage ASTM E2797-11 Building Energy Performance Assessment Standard methodology for guidance on partial month billing data “calendarization.”
- Building drawings, equipment inventories, system and material specifications, field survey results and/or CAD takeoffs, observations, short-term monitored data, spot measurements, and functional performance test results as appropriate to recommended upgrades.
- Utility rate structure as published by the utility and the commodity provider (if the two are separate) with a breakdown of distribution costs, commodity costs, demand charges, and taxes as well as any time-of-day variability in each of these elements. Statement of how the facility currently purchases energy is included in the next section.

**Optional:**

- Interval data used for review of daily consumption and demand profiles.
- Sub-metering data, including heating and cooling equipment and other major pieces of equipment or end-uses.
- On-site weather data coincident with the metered utility data.
- Copies of most recent calibration certificates for all utility meters or data logging equipment, stating the standards to which they are calibrated.
- Owner's rent roll (showing occupancy and lease dates) for the relevant period and description of types of space use by tenants; if details are viewed as confidential, general descriptions of end use will suffice. Auditor shall note particularly energy-intensive uses including restaurants and data centers.

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## BASELINING - RATE ANALYSIS, DEMAND, LOAD PROFILE, INTERVAL DATA

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Depending upon the location of the building in question, the time of day at which energy is saved can have a significant impact on the dollar value of the savings achieved. Where demand charges are in effect or time-of-use pricing, load profiles must be provided to show the pattern of daily demand. An annual electrical load profile must be constructed for peak demand (kW) as recorded and billed by the utility. Rates that include Ratchet provisions must be identified. The same procedure must be followed for any other energy source that is sold with a peak demand charge separate from energy usage.

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### REQUIRED ELEMENTS

- **Energy Purchasing:** Description of how the facility purchases energy and the pricing that applies to peak and off-peak energy.
- **Load Profile:** Annual load profile showing monthly consumption and peak demand.
- **Peak Usage:** Graphic presentation of peak usage if interval data is available.
- **Time-of-Use:** Time-of-use summary by month if the site is under a time-of-use or real-time rate.

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### REQUIRED PROCEDURES

1. Establish monthly peak demand and pricing based upon the monthly bills.
2. Chart average daily demand in 15-minute intervals (larger intervals if 15-minute is not available) with time on the x axis and kW (or MMBtu as appropriate) on the y axis for typical weekday and weekend days in the spring, fall, winter, and summer.

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### REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION

- Copies of at least one bill for electricity and each fuel including the description of the rate class. Copies of commodity purchase contracts and/or utility rate sheets or relevant language describing peak and off-peak rates, demand charges, time periods, seasonality.
- 12 months of interval meter data for the relevant fuels (if interval metering exists), provided in spreadsheet format.

**Optional:**

- Monthly consumption load profile for each energy type.
- Multi-year, year-over-year plotting of monthly peak demand by energy type.

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## SAVINGS CALCULATION

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Calculations of estimated savings for projects of the scale anticipated must be based on “open-book” spreadsheet methods or tools. The calculations must be based on sound engineering methods and consistent with ASHRAE principals, and the results calibrated to estimated or known end-use energy usage.

For more complex projects, use of a calibrated building simulation may be warranted. If this calculation method is selected, the [EEP-Large Commercial Protocol](#) should be used for the project in lieu of this protocol, or the Savings Calculation section of the EEP-Large Commercial Protocol used in lieu of this section.

Use of proprietary “closed book” calculation methods is not recommended. However, if proprietary tools are used for measure savings calculations, they must be well documented. The documentation must include history of previous use, detailed description of the calculation methodologies and assumptions used by the tool, as well as papers, studies or documentation demonstrating the technical rigor of the tool and methodologies employed.

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## REQUIRED ELEMENTS

- **Calculation Tools:** Open-book spreadsheet methods, either commercially available or developed in house, should be used to develop energy savings estimates for the ECMs.
- **Credentials:** Savings calculation development by an individual with:
  - a. [ASHRAE BEAP](#) certification, **or**
  - b. [AEE CEM](#) or [CEA](#) certification, **or**
  - c. Professional Engineering license, **or**
  - d. Five years (minimum) of demonstrated experience calculating energy savings, documented in the form of a CV outlining relevant project experience
- **Energy Conservation Measure Descriptions:** Descriptions of the existing conditions, proposed retrofit, and potential interactive effects for each measure under consideration.
- **Calculation Data:** Disclosure and description of inputs (defaults versus assumptions), including those from any companion tools (e.g. load calculators, field testing) used to create inputs for the spreadsheet calculations.
- **Measure Calibration:** The pre-retrofit energy consumption estimated for each system involved in an ECM must be compared to the estimated or measured end-use energy usage, to ensure that the estimated energy usage is in line with baseline estimates. Similarly, estimated energy savings should be compared to simple estimation efforts or previous energy savings estimates for reasonableness.
- **Calculation Process Description:** Sufficient description of the calculation processes such that (with the necessary input information) a reviewer can reconstruct the calculations. This description should include documentation of the formulas used, as well as assumptions used and their sources. Calculations must be *transparent*, such that constants or assumption values

are not “embedded” within formulas, but are referenced within the spreadsheet and documented with source, value, and units.

- **Interactions:** Calculations should take into account measure interactions with building heating and cooling loads (e.g. lighting retrofit), as well as interactions between measures.
- **Reporting:** Use of an industry-accepted format for reporting of results and for compilation of methods and underlying data used for individual ECM calculations as well as for the package of recommended measures. Additionally, annual energy savings by fuel type shall be documented in terms of energy units, a percentage of the total volume of each fuel, and as cost savings using the correct marginal rate for that energy type.

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## REQUIRED PROCEDURES

1. **Inform calculation input values** with on-site observations and measured data.
  - Prepare transparent spreadsheet calculations in a readily readable and usable form based on building documentation from plans, equipment schedules, field confirmations, observations and tests.
  - Document calculation processes, formulas, as well as assumptions used and their sources.
  - Where inputs must assign efficiencies, rates, and other values that are not readily measurable, the basis of such assignments must be clearly stated.
  - Identify equipment part-load profiles, operating conditions, and associated efficiencies.
  - Confirm operating schedules for seasonal variations, zone variations, overtime usage, cleaning schedules and practices.
2. **Inform and Tune.** Calibrate pre-retrofit energy consumption estimated for each system involved in an ECM to the estimated or measured end-use energy usage. Compare estimated energy savings to “rules of thumb” or “back-of-the-envelope” calculations, and previous estimates from similar past projects. Inform inputs based on actual building data.
3. **Account for interactive effects** with building heating and cooling loads, as well as interactions between measures.
4. **Use findings to meet project objectives and provide added value.**

### Analysis of Energy Conservation Measures (ECMs)

1. Ascertain and record the return on investment criteria of the client, best expressed for simplicity as a simple payback period, or as an internal rate of return (IRR), net present value (NPV), cash-flow analysis or savings-to-investment ratio (SIR). In most cases, a project that has an SIR>1 is recommended.
2. Prepare a set of ECMs likely to achieve the investment criteria, based on the experience of the engineers involved, building owner preferences, observed condition and operation of existing systems, preliminary calculations, and contractor recommendations.
3. Establish a preliminary cost estimate (see Pricing / Cost Estimation below).

4. Evaluate savings performance and cost effectiveness of each ECM individually. Utilize calculation methods such as temperature bin analysis and regression analysis. For each ECM clearly document the calculation methodology, formulas, inputs, assumptions and their sources.
  - a. References such as the [Uniform Methods Project \(UMP\)](#) provide detailed guidelines for calculation methods and best practices.
  - b. Vetted resources for calculation tools such as those developed by the [US Department of Energy \(DOE\) Federal Energy Management Program \(FEMP\)](#) can be used or referred to as models for calculation methods.
  - c. Screening tools are an acceptable method for preliminary consideration of measure applicability, but must not be used in lieu of detailed calculation methods.
  - d. Note: If third-party proprietary calculation tools are used, sufficient documentation must be included to validate unbiased assessment of energy savings estimates.
5. Provide a statement of the energy prices used to establish dollar-value of the savings. This conversion from energy usage to cost must be based on the appropriate local utility rate schedule in effect at the time or, if the facility is purchasing from an independent vendor, the commodity price and the utility distribution schedule of charges. The marginal rate must be used as the cost of the next unit of energy used or saved. No inflation values may be applied in the analysis. Treatment of demand must be described for each measure.
6. Account for interactions between measures and potential reductions and increases in building heating and cooling loads. Interactions between measures, such as schedule changes, should also be accounted for when appropriate.
7. Perform a Quality Assurance review of recommended measures and overall projected savings based on experience, reasonability, and specific comparables such as estimated or sub-metered end-use energy usage.
8. Develop pricing for ECMs and finalize spreadsheet-based analysis and recommendations based upon estimated pricing.
9. Prepare a final report in an industry-standard format summarizing ECMs and compiling all required supporting data. At present, the industry standard for report presentation of ECM, building, and energy use data is the ASHRAE Procedures for Commercial Building Energy Audits (Second Edition 2011).

### **Pricing / Cost Estimation**

The final investment package should have pricing based upon bids that represent the price for which a contractor has committed to make the improvements.

If that pricing will not be available for the economic evaluation of ECMs, the calculations must utilize cost estimates based upon the engineer's experience with previous projects, detailed conceptual estimates, R.S. Means estimation, general contractor quotes or other sources. Estimates so developed can be used to rank order improvements and determine those for inclusion in a final bid package. Cost estimates at the calculation phase must include:

- A construction feasibility review indicating what has to be done, that it can be done, allowable working hours, impacts on the facility, access points for bringing in any standard equipment, major removals (demolition), permits required and environmental issues (i.e., asbestos, hazardous materials, or other issues that impact indoor air quality).

- Categories and multiple line items for all necessary trades, i.e., civil (structural and site work, demolition, rigging), mechanical, plumbing, electrical, architectural (finishes), environmental (hazardous material mitigation), provision of temporary services as necessary. Underlying lists or spreadsheets with major pieces of equipment must back up trade categories.
- All lines by trade must include labor and materials. "Labor" can be specified by budgetary allowance rather than hours and hourly rates but must state expressly whether or not job must be union or requires prevailing wage.
- Line items for professional fees, engineering, commissioning, construction management, permitting, measurement & verification, contractor O&P, and contingency. These are percentages of the total from above.
- Cost estimates may need to be bifurcated into total cost and incremental cost, depending on the audience and the financing contemplated. For example, utility incentives are often based on incremental cost.
- Lifecycle Cost Analysis (LCCA) is not required, but may be included where there are benefits of the proposed retrofit other than energy cost savings. See: [NIST Life-Cycle Costing Handbook 135](#).
- Estimated equipment useful life expectancy and equipment degradation are not required, but may be included to assess the overall economic performance of proposed retrofits. These estimates should be conservative and based on accepted values (ASHRAE standards).

### **Quality Assurance Process**

1. Compare calculation outcomes to comparable projects, simple estimation methods, and end-use energy usage for reasonableness. Assess that outcomes are consistent with comparables. If not consistent with comparables, provide reasons why the project under consideration is different.
2. Compare calculation outcomes with experience-based guidelines of reasonability (including, for example, benchmarking data capturing the performance of reasonably comparable buildings) for individual measures and for the project as a whole. These guidelines must be expressed in terms of savings as a percentage of building energy use and system-level usage.
3. Clearly document all sources used for inputs and assumptions, formulas, and methodology.

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## REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION

- Qualifications of the person(s) performing the savings calculations.
- Documentation must include all factors that were considered to create the savings calculation estimates.
- Specific documentation requirements include, without limitation:
  - Workbooks, spreadsheets and other calculation tools used for the savings estimates.
  - Weather file that was used for temperature bin calculations or regression analysis.
  - Basis for cost estimates, including, if applicable, scope of work upon which bid packages are based, and bid packages.
  - If applicable, bids by trade with the breakouts described in pricing (above).
  - Savings calculation results.
  - A quality assurance statement indicating the findings of a review of calculation results against project comparable and guidelines of reasonability for savings as a percentage of end-use energy use.

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## DESIGN, CONSTRUCTION AND COMMISSIONING

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The design and construction team must commit to realize the intent of the energy audit recommendations accepted by the Project Owner. That this commitment is met will be part of the project's commissioning (Cx) effort. New retrofitted systems must be commissioned to ensure that:

1. The installation conforms to what was intended and specified.
2. The equipment and systems are operating correctly, as specified, demonstrated by functional testing.
3. System documentation has been provided that includes measure intent, key control sequences, and key equipment specifications.
4. Operators have been trained on the above.

There are various industry standards that adequately define the new-construction commissioning process that must be applied to new retrofitted systems. Acceptable references include ASHRAE Standard 202 and [Guideline 0/1, Building Commissioning Association](#), and the [CA Commissioning Collaborative](#). The project must select one such acceptable industry standard or guideline and design and perform commissioning efforts consistent with that guideline.

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### REQUIRED ELEMENTS

- **Current Facility Requirements:** Documentation will be prepared in which the owner or manager details the current functional requirements of a facility and the expectations of how it should be used and operated. This may include goals, measurable performance criteria, cost considerations, benchmarks, success criteria, and supporting information to meet the requirements of occupants, users, and owners of the facility.
- **Commissioning Plan:** Commissioning plans shall be specified for all new systems and/or major pieces of equipment in the project. The Cx Plan must follow the guidance of one of the referenced acceptable industry guidelines. The Cx Plan will define all of the detailed Cx procedures, tests to be performed and a performance checklist.
- **Cx Authority:** Appointment of a qualified Cx Authority as manager of the commissioning process is required. The Cx Authority must be brought onto the project team at an early phase of design and have a defined, actively involved role throughout the design and construction process.
- **Design and Construction:** The Cx Authority must assure that the project as designed and constructed conforms to the intent and scope of the current facility requirements and energy audit and can be expected to perform as conceived and projected by the energy audit. This may include consultation with the energy audit team, monitoring of designs and submittals and project changes, inspections, re-running of energy models to assess the impact of changes, tests, etc. The Cx Authority must have the responsibility and means of reporting deviations from design and projected energy savings to the Project Owner in an issue log.
- **Test Requirements:** System and equipment test requirements must include specific tests and documentation that relate to the energy performance of the new and modified systems and/or equipment, conducted over a suitable range of operating (or simulated operating) conditions, and time period.

- **Verification and Instrumentation:** The Cx Authority must ensure that appropriate instrumentation and verification capability is incorporated into the design and modification to support the ongoing monitoring aspects of the project.
- **Project Tracking:** Procedures must be developed and implemented for retaining all of the Cx results as part of building documentation and Cx report.
- **Project and Equipment Documentation:** Full documentation of all new and modified systems and equipment in the form of Systems Manuals, to be prepared following [ASHRAE Guideline 4](#) and [Guideline 1.4](#).
- **Energy Performance Reporting:** Documentation must include (monthly where possible) target energy budgets and other key performance indicators for the modified building as a whole and down to the level of systems and major equipment where required.
- **Training:** Training of building operators in operation of the new systems/equipment, including their energy performance targets and key performance indicators.
- **Commissioning Report:** Documentation shall be provided that details activities completed as part of the commissioning process and significant findings from those activities, which is continuously updated during the course of a project.

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## REQUIRED PROCEDURES

1. Appoint a qualified Cx Authority. The qualification shall be a person who holds industry recognized certifications (ASHRAE, BCA, AEE) in both commissioning and in energy performance/management, or have at least five years of demonstrated commissioning experience, documented in the form of a CV outlining relevant project experience.
2. Develop a current facility requirements document and Cx plan.
3. Execute all procedures and tests called for by the Cx plan.
4. Document all Cx results as part of the building's permanent documentation.
5. Provide full documentation (Systems Operating Manuals) including energy performance targets for new systems and equipment and a commissioning report.
6. Train operators in the correct operation of all new systems and equipment, including meeting energy performance targets.

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## **REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION**

- Qualifications of the Cx Authority.
- Current Facilities Requirements document.
- Full Cx Plan including specific tests, test procedures and checklists.
- Statements by the Cx Authority that the project, first as designed and, subsequently, as built conforms with the intent, scope and projected performance of the current facility requirements, original energy audit and model estimates or, if not, in what way(s) the energy performance projections have been altered.
- Record of Cx results and commissioning report.
- Systems Operating Manuals for all new and modified systems/equipment, including monthly target energy budgets.
- Training materials and record of training.

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## OPERATIONS, MAINTENANCE, AND MONITORING

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Operations, Maintenance, and Monitoring is the practice of systematic monitoring of energy system performance and instituting corrective actions to ensure “in specification” energy performance. (Often referred to as Ongoing Commissioning, Monitoring-based Commissioning, Performance-based Monitoring, and Building Re-tuning).

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### REQUIRED ELEMENTS

- **Performance Indicators:** Establishment of key performance indicators at component and/or system level - the performance bands outside which corrective communication/response will be taken – consistent with achieving close to desired building level energy performance defined in the Current Facility Requirements document.
- **Monitoring:** Identification of points, interval and duration to be monitored by the building management system.
- **Operation:** Assignment of responsibilities for communication of performance issues and implementation of corrective actions.
- **Training:** Training of building operators in proper maintenance best-practices for the new and modified systems/equipment.

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### REQUIRED PROCEDURES

1. Select ongoing management regime, such as BMS report review by staff, software-based monitoring and fault detection, whole-building monitoring, periodic recommissioning, or a combination of these approaches.
2. Train facility staff and service providers on new equipment, management and monitoring software and reporting regime. Training must incorporate understanding, skills, and procedures necessary to support the operations, maintenance, and monitoring program.
3. Chart the data points to be monitored and their relationship to performance assurance of the new installations and modified equipment/systems.
4. Install and test fault detection functions for system malfunctions or substantial deviations.
5. Compare actual performance with savings projections for the same period given adjustment factors on a (minimum) monthly basis.
6. Submit periodic performance reports covering all monitored points including all observed deviations from projected operation, analysis of cause, and corrective actions taken or recommended.
7. Train operators in proper maintenance best-practices for all new systems and equipment (refer to ASHRAE Handbook-2011, Chapter 39).

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## REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION

- Points list of key variables to be trended in the BMS.
- Plan for fault detection and remediation – may be fully automated or a combination of automation and active response by commissioning and building personnel. The plan should indicate the intervals for measurements and the duration within which performance will be measured.
- Organizational chart establishing contact information for all personnel involved in ongoing commissioning process and clear internal responsibility for the monitoring and response activities. If ongoing commissioning is outsourced to a third-party provider, the chart must clarify its relationship to the property's operating staff and senior management personnel, reporting processes and responsibilities for corrective action.
- Maintenance plans and service response log, including warranties for any new equipment.
- Training curriculum.

### Optional:

- Upgrade monthly monitoring, fault detection, correction and system tuning to weekly, daily or real-time.
- Follow-up monitoring to assess effectiveness of actions taken.

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## MEASUREMENT AND VERIFICATION

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The following overarching principles should govern any Measurement and Verification (M&V) Plan:

- **Transparency:** all input data, baseline calculations, and variable derivations must be made available to all parties and any authorized reviewers.
- **Reproducibility:** given the same source data and a description of the adjustment methodology, any competent practitioner must be able to produce identical or nearly identical results.
- **Fairness:** baseline adjustments must show no meaningful statistical bias toward a positive or negative outcome.

The methods outlined in ASHRAE Guideline 14 *Whole Building Performance Path* and IPMVP Options A (*Retrofit Isolation: Key Parameter Measurement*) and B (*Retrofit Isolation: All Parameter Measurement*) must be followed, supported by ASTM E2797-11 Building Energy Performance Assessment (BEPA) Standard data collection methodology. The Uniform Methods Project (UMP) should also be referenced with regards to monitoring and measurement details, and uncertainty analysis. Prior to investment decision-making (e.g. as part of contract development and investment due diligence) an M&V Plan for an energy efficiency improvement must be designed to ensure that reliable accounting methods for energy savings are in place.

Note that while IPMVP Option C (*Whole Building Comparison*) is not presented as an option under this Standard Commercial Protocol, it may be applicable for some projects with scope and energy savings that represent a significant impact on the building's overall energy usage. If an Option C approach is deemed appropriate by a project using this Standard Commercial Protocol, the *Measurement and Verification* section of the EPP-Large Commercial Protocol should be used in lieu of this section.

### Standard M&V Method

Quantifying the savings reliably from energy conservation projects (or individual ECMs) requires the comparison of established baseline and post-installation energy performance and use normalized to reflect the same set of conditions. For purposes of this protocol, the pre-retrofit energy usage baseline that was developed in the Baseline section of this protocol is the starting point for measurement and verification. The standard method is to measure the pre- and post-retrofit energy use of the components affected by an ECM from the energy use of the rest of the building. In the case of Option A, some of these parameters are stipulated rather than measured. The energy savings are verified through comparison of the pre- and post-retrofit energy performance of the system(s).

Selection of an Option A (*Retrofit Isolation: Key Parameter Measurement*) or Option B (*Retrofit Isolation: All Parameter Measurement*) approach should depend on the level of energy savings and confidence / variability associated with each ECM and the parameters associated with the energy savings. Guidance regarding which Option is most appropriate for a measure can be found in IPMVP Volume III 2006, Table 1 in Section 4.1, Section 4.2.9 (Option A: Best Applications) and Section 4.3.1 (Option B: Best Applications), as well as in IPMVP Volume I 2012, Section 4, Table 3 and Figure 4.

Savings are determined by comparison to the monitored baseline energy and post-installation energy use, adjusted to the same set of conditions (loads). The approach requires adjustments to baseline energy use as follows:

1. **Routine adjustments:** Account for expected changes in energy use.
2. **Non-routine adjustments:** Account for unexpected changes in energy use not due to installed ECMs.

Routine adjustments typically include those for changes in weather. Non-routine adjustments typically include changes in occupancy, type of space use, equipment, operating hours, service levels (e.g. a new tenant requires colder air), and utility rates (where the difference in cost and not usage is the desired outcome).

The equation for an adjustment takes the general form:

$$\text{EnergyUsage}_{\text{New}} = \text{EnergyUsage}_{\text{Baseline}} \times \text{Change in Conditions}$$

For example, an engineer may estimate the impact of a change in occupancy on the energy usage of a system. The adjustment factor to be applied may come from a whole building simulation that estimates the impact based upon the existing systems and their ability to modulate to respond to higher or lower occupancy. Alternatively it might be derived from a comparison of actual usage data for periods of lower or higher occupancy.

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## **REQUIRED ELEMENTS**

- Appointment of a third-party measurement and verification professional with AEE [CMVP](#) certification or at least five years of demonstrated M&V experience, documented in the form of a CV outlining relevant project experience, to provide M&V services, or to provide oversight to the M&V process.
- Definition of the baseline and post-retrofit periods.
- All baseline use and cost parameters (the dependent variables in an adjustment calculation).
- Definition of the baseline values of routine adjustment parameters (the independent variables).
- For Option A, definition of the stipulated parameters, including their overall significance relative to the total expected savings.
- Utility rates applicable to the baseline values.
- List and describe all methods for routine adjustments.
- List and describe all known or expected non-routine adjustments.
- Provide all adjustment parameters and formulae for routine and known or expected non-routine adjustments.
- Define the principles upon which any unknown non-routine adjustments will be based.
- Input data sets, assumptions and calculations to all parties in an efficiency project and any commissioned or independent reviewers.

- Technical identification of the boundaries of savings determination (e.g. piece of equipment, system). The nature of any energy effects beyond the boundaries must be described and their possible impacts estimated.
- Specification of metering points, equipment, equipment commissioning and calibration, and measurement protocols, including expected accuracy.
- Specification of the methods used to deal with missing or lost metered data.
- Specification of the set of conditions used for weather adjustments, including the period and/or weather data used, and any assumptions or interpolations made in the case of missing or incomplete data.
- Description of Quality Assurance procedures.
- Specification for reporting format of the results.

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## **REQUIRED PROCEDURES**

1. Comply with applicable sections of IPMVP Options A and B and/or ASHRAE Guideline 14-2002.
  - Routine Adjustments:
    - See IPMVP Options A and B and/or ASHRAE Guideline 14-2002.
  - Non-Routine Adjustment Procedures:
    - To the extent possible, ongoing commissioning processes should be used to reduce the need for non-routine adjustments. Equipment failures and other anomalies should be identified and addressed before non-routine adjustments must be applied. Nevertheless, during the post-installation period, unexpected changes may take place in buildings. For an “apples to apples” comparison with the baseline, the impact of these unexpected changes must be quantified and adjusted for.

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## REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION

- Measurement and Verification plan.
- Data collected and used in the analysis.
- Spreadsheet calculations, including all assumptions and documentation.
- Routine adjustments.
- Non-routine adjustments.
  - Description of cause or source of unexpected changes.
  - Impact.
    - Temporary or permanent.
    - Constant or variable impact.
    - Amount of energy affected.
  - Measurements made to quantify non-routine adjustments.
  - Description of baseline adjustment procedure.

### Optional:

- Option C Approach (refer to EPP-Large Commercial Protocol).

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## ENGINEERING CERTIFICATION

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I hereby certify that the engineering design used in preparation of this application, attachments and supplements were performed by me or under my direct supervision. I further certify to the best of my knowledge that, with respect to the project described herein, the elements listed below have been performed in accordance with the protocols specified as part of the **Energy Performance Protocol – Standard Commercial**:

- BASELINING ENERGY USAGE
  - RATE ANALYSIS
  - DEMAND
  - LOAD PROFILE
  - INTERVAL DATA
- SAVINGS CALCULATION
  - SIMULATION MODELING TO REQUIREMENTS
- DESIGN, CONSTRUCTION AND COMMISSIONING
- OPERATIONS, MAINTENANCE, AND MONITORING
- MEASUREMENT AND VERIFICATION
  - M&V METHODOLOGY
  - BASELINE ADJUSTMENT FACTORS IDENTIFIED
  - CONTRACT PROVISIONS FOR M&V

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Name

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Title

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Address

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Registration / License Number

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Phone Number

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State

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Signature

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Date