

## **Energy Directorate delivers specialized energy manager training**

By AFCEC Energy Directorate

TYNDALL AIR FORCE BASE, Fla. -- The Air Force Civil Engineer Center's Energy Directorate, part of AFCEC's Detachment 1 at Tyndall, provides a variety of training opportunities for energy managers to ensure they are ready and capable of providing energy resilience across the Air Force.

While there is no designated energy manager career path, the energy directorate delivers continuous training to build the energy manager enterprise into a cohesive and well-informed team. Several platforms are used to deliver a wide range of content such as the Air Force Institute of Technology,, Teams, CE-DASH and individual, one-on-one sessions to support new and seasoned energy managers.

### **AFIT Courses**

The AFIT WENT 466 Facility Energy Manager course offers tools and resources for new energy managers to ensure they can make informed energy decisions for their installations. Participants learn from senior Air Force leadership and experienced energy managers who share their extensive knowledge on energy policy, legislation and responsibilities.

Energy managers receive "hit the ground running" information to gain the ability to balance daily work while keeping a strategic eye on making the installation more energy resilient. Thirty-five base energy managers from across the globe attended the 2021 virtual class and successfully completed the training.

The AFIT WENT 464 Certified Energy Manager Course provides energy managers the opportunity to earn a Certified Energy Manager certification. Attendees receive fundamental knowledge and tools to understand and apply energy and water management, technology and conservation principles related to Air Force installations.

The Association of Energy Engineers conducts the courses, with AFIT providing administrative support. The energy directorate provides funding and student approval oversight to ensure courses are related to the Air Force Energy Management Program. Due to COVID-19, AEE converted to virtual class settings. In Fiscal Year 2021, AFIT contracted seven class dates to accommodate 30 Air Force students.

The WMGT 423 Project Programming Course presents students with an overview of project planning and programming while enabling them to define project requirements, determine work classification, select appropriate funding avenues and develop programming documents. The course is ideal for project programmers, project managers, portfolio optimization element chiefs and program development section chiefs, many of whom also serve as energy managers.

AFCEC Energy Directorate plays an active role in the course with a review focusing on energy project programs and third-party investments including Energy Resilience & Conservation

Investment Program, Facilities Sustainment, Restoration and Modernization, Energy Projects, Energy Savings Performance Contracts and Utility Energy Savings Contracts.

### **NexGen IT Database**

NexGen IT is an integrated enterprise asset management system that provides cost accounting, energy, operations, material control, project management and real property capability. It standardizes processes and supports compliance mandates while providing data transparency for agile decision-making across the enterprise and replaces sun-downing legacy systems.

The AFCEC Functional Management Office provides initial deployment training to energy managers while the AFCEC Energy Directorate's Measurement & Analysis Division provides on-going and new energy manager training. Utilizing a comprehensive NexGen IT Energy Reference Guide and Data Standards, the division provides one-on-one and group sessions through Microsoft Teams with step-by-step guidance for energy managers as they learn to use the program or need a refresher. The NexGen IT database is used to capture critical information for the Annual Energy Management & Resilience Report, Compliance Tracking System and supports the installation utility reimbursement program.

### **Bi-Monthly Energy Manager All-Call**

The energy directorate recognized the need to provide a systematic two-way communication forum for energy professionals across the Air Force enterprise. The Bi-Monthly Energy Manager All-Call was established to provide information and training for the overall energy team. Each session routinely sees 150+ participants from headquarters Secretary of the Air Force, Air Force Installation and Mission Support Center, AFCEC and installations.

### **Data Decision Dashboard Tool (D3T)**

The Data Decision Dashboard Tool, or D3T, is an interactive analytical tool that displays multiple energy-related perspectives. The D3T pulls authoritative data from NexGen IT, SMS Builder and Air Force Weather into a display of various dashboards, allowing energy managers to visually identify energy hot spots, consumption spikes and trends. While the D3T is optional for energy managers, as more information is entered into the databases the tool will become more useful for each installation.

The measurement and analysis division provides monthly training sessions in addition to one-on-one sessions to teach energy managers best practices and establish a Tableau account.

"The various training programs provide forums allowing for two-way communication with new and seasoned energy managers at all levels of the enterprise," said Deven Volk, management and analysis division chief. "The combined efforts help the energy enterprise identify and implement solutions to improve installation energy resilience and support mission assurance."

To learn more about the energy directorate's training programs, contact Volk at [deven.volk.1@us.af.mil](mailto:deven.volk.1@us.af.mil).