

RCM News for March 2023

A Newsletter for Resource Conservation Managers in the Northwest

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While every URL in RCM News is checked for accuracy prior to distribution, URLs may change, and servers may temporarily fail to connect to working URLs.

JOB ANNOUNCEMENTS

Senior Energy Management Analyst

The Customer Energy Solutions division of Seattle City Light is seeking to hire two Senior Energy Management Analysts to promote and deliver the utility's portfolio of demand-side management programs. A few of the responsibilities include program implementation, opportunity identification, customer relations, and technical advice.

[Click here for position announcement.](#)

Position closes April 4, 2023 at 4:00 PM Pacific Time.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Washington State Clean Buildings Expansion Bill

Attend a kick-off meeting to learn about the Clean Buildings Expansion, which was signed into law in March 2022. The expansion applies to buildings between 20,000-50,000 square feet, adding a new second tier that includes multifamily buildings. The first phase of this law is not a performance standard. It will require reporting on benchmarking, energy management plans, and operations and maintenance programs for Tier 2 buildings.

Reporting for this new tier is expected to begin July 1, 2027. The expansion bill also includes an incentive program with an additional \$150 million available for Tier 2 buildings at a rate of 30 cents per square foot. The new law requires the Washington State Department of Commerce (Commerce) to complete rulemaking by December 1, 2023.

Commerce is hosting a Pre-Rulemaking Webinar: Introduction to the Clean Buildings Expansion on April 13, 2023, from 10:30am to 12:00pm PT. The Zoom meeting information is: Meeting ID: 858 2192 0472, Passcode: 183331.

[Puget Sound Energy's 2023 Accelerator Program](#)

Puget Sound Energy's [Clean Buildings Accelerator](#) program unpacks Washington's Clean Buildings Law (HB 1257, 2019) and teaches you how to comply through a hands-on four-month virtual training program. Learn if the Accelerator is right for you by attending a one-hour virtual orientation on April 20 and/or enroll in the Accelerator program. The first training cohort is scheduled for April 25.

[Clean Buildings Performance Standard: Emergency Rules Exemption Public Hearing](#)

A public hearing about extending the window of time from one to three years for Clean Buildings Standard exemption decisions will take place the morning of May 9. The Washington State Department of Commerce requests written comments about the [emergency rule filing](#) be submitted to buildings@commerce.wa.gov. The Zoom meeting information for the May 9th meeting is Zoom Meeting ID: 852 2805 2395, Passcode: 947795.

[Clean Energy Fund Grants for Grid Modernization Projects](#)

The Washington State Department of Commerce's Clean Energy Fund is requesting applications for [Grid Modernization Program](#) projects. Priority funding will go to communities, including local governments, with high environmental or energy burden, Tribes, smaller utilities and partnerships. Phase One applications are due April 20, 2023.

[Electrification Infrastructure Grants](#)

The Washington State Department of Commerce is accepting grant applications from local governments and federally recognized Tribal governments for the procurement, installation, and integration of electric vehicle supply infrastructure in rural communities. Phase two of the [Clean Energy Fund – Electrification of Transportation Systems Grants program](#) will open April 3, 2023 and applications are accepted until May 15, 2023.

[2023 Waste-to-Energy Technical Assistance for Local Governments](#)

The National Renewable Energy Lab on behalf of the U.S. Dept. of Energy Bioenergy Technologies Office, is launching the next phase of the organic [Waste-to Energy Technical Assistance for Local Governments](#). Municipalities, counties, and Tribal governments may apply. Applications are being accepted through April 14, 2023.

[ARTICLES](#)

Electric Vehicle Chargers

With an ever-increasing electric vehicle (EV) adoption rate, along with the U.S. government's recent funding acts for charging infrastructure and associated tax incentives, workplace vehicle charger investment is emerging as essential. Ryan Gram's and Jess Cain's article, "[4 Considerations for Installing Electric Vehicle Chargers at Commercial Sites](#)", appearing in the March 2023 Building Operating Management, shows what it takes to properly equip your commercial site with EV chargers. The four considerations are funding, charger types, load management and software, and right-sizing infrastructure. Since many other elements could be considered, the authors recommend working with an EV consultant.

Net Zero Energy in Commercial Buildings

Three renovation and building projects in northern climates with summer-winter extremes were able to achieve net zero energy, especially because they focused on first reducing the energy footprint. Jennie Morton, in her article "[How These 3 Buildings Achieved Zero Energy](#)", published March 21, 2023 in *Buildings Magazine*, documents the elements included in the projects' designs. A thermal labyrinth, solar array, and heat exchanger played major roles, as well as LED upgrades, building orientation, natural ventilation, and other energy efficiency strategies.

School HVAC Retrofits

Jacqueline Maley's article "[Scalable HVAC Retrofits to Improve Indoor Air Quality in Schools](#)", published on the U.S. Green Building Council website March 6, 2023, summarizes a seminar hosted by the Center for Green Schools and the Department of Energy's Efficient and Healthy Schools Campaign. The panelists shared findings of a recent study which looked at school environment, indoor air quality and student performance and health.

UPCOMING EVENTS & TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

➤ ALL EVENTS VIRTUAL UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED ◀

ENERGY STAR® and Portfolio Manager® Trainings

All are online webinars.

- Part 3: To Efficiency & Beyond! How to Benefit from Benchmarking Compliance with Strategies for Improving Energy – Apr 4
- How to Apply for Tenant Space Recognition – Apr 6
- Verifying the Application for ENERGY STAR Tenant Space Recognition – Apr 11
- Portfolio Manager 101 – Apr 13
- Portfolio Manager 201 – Apr 18
- Portfolio Manager 301 – Apr 25
- Part 1: A Beginner's Guide to Using Portfolio Manager for Benchmarking Law Compliance – Apr 27
- Ask the Expert – every other Wednesday

[Click here for more webinars and information](#)

U.S. EPA ENERGY STAR

Better Buildings, Better Plants Summit

- Apr 11-13, 2023 in Washington, D.C.

[Click here for more information](#)

U.S. DOE Better Buildings

IFMA's Facility Fusion Conference & Expo

- Apr 11-13, 2023 in San Francisco

[Click here for more information](#)

International Facility Management Association

Clean Buildings

- Clean Buildings General Pre-Rulemaking Webinar: Introduction to the Clean Buildings Expansion – Apr 13 via Zoom
- Public Hearing for Emergency Rules: Clean Buildings Exemption Timeline – May 9 via Zoom

[Click here for more information](#)

WA State Department of Commerce

Improving Building Envelope Performance

Live webinar on the latest U.S. Department of Energy's Building Envelope Campaign including success stories from partners in the K-12 and healthcare sectors.

- Apr 19 – live webinar

[Click here for more information](#)

Building Operators Certification

Oregon APEM Spring Forum 2023 – Strategic Energy Management vs Retrocommissioning

- Apr 21 in Portland

[Click here for more information](#)

Oregon Association of Professional Energy Managers

Pump System Fundamentals Course

Live instructor-led course is designed to teach the fundamentals of pump and system design, including system hydraulics and calculations, pump and system curves, system components, factors affecting reliability, and energy consumption and control.

- Apr 26 in Seattle

[Click here for more information](#)

Hydraulic Institute and Pump Systems Matter

Plug-In Heat Pump Water Heaters

An overview of emerging, retrofit ready 120V heat pump water heaters (HPWH).

- Apr 27 – live webinar

[Click here for more information](#)

New Buildings Institute

Certified Energy Manager (CEM) Training

In-person four-day training and CEM examination.

- May 1-5 in Seattle

[Click here for more information](#)

Pacific NW Chapter of Association of Energy Engineers, Smart Buildings Center

National Fundamentals of Energy Efficient Building Operations

BOC course providing the basic principles of energy efficiency awareness and practices in commercial buildings. Six half-day classes. Register by Apr 25.

- May 9 through Jun 8, 2023 via Zoom

[Click here for more information](#)

Building Operators Certification

Getting to Zero Forum

- May 10-12, 2023 in Minneapolis + virtual

[Click here for more information](#)

New Buildings Institute

Roadmap Conference

Electric transportation conference

- May 15-17, 2023 in Portland

[Click here for more information](#)

Forth

Smart Buildings Exchange

- Aug 15-17, 2023 in Seattle + virtual

[Click here for more information](#)

Smart Buildings Center

Building Operators Certification

BOC Level I certification is 74 hours of training and project work in building systems maintenance. Level II certification is 61 hours of training and elective coursework in equipment troubleshooting and maintenance. Classes usually meet one or two full days a month over a period of four to six months.

All dates below are for the first class.

- Washington State
 - Level I classes
 - June 6, 2023 to Sept 28, 2023 via Zoom
 - Sept 19, 2023 to Feb 27, 2024 in Seattle
 - Level II class
 - Oct 25, 2023 to Feb 29, 2024 via Zoom

[Click here for BOC Washington State information](#)

- Oregon
 - Level I class
 - May 4, 2023 to Nov 2, 2023 via Zoom

[Click here for BOC Oregon information](#)

Building Operators Certification, Northwest Water & Energy Education Institute

RESOURCES

Clean Buildings Performance Standard Life Cycle Analysis Tool

Those pursuing Clean Buildings Performance Standard compliance through the investment criteria must fill out a life cycle analysis on [Form F: Life Cycle Analysis \(LCCA\) Tool](#). This tool is updated annually; the February 22, 2023 update is now available. Please note that the link takes you to the form itself, which may take a while to load.

Clean Buildings Performance Standard Early Adopter Incentive

A video-recording of the [February 22, 2023 Early Adopter Incentive Q&A session](#) is now available for viewing. Incentive payments of \$0.85 per gross square foot may be available for building owners who comply with the Clean Buildings Performance Standard before their compliance date.

Do you have newsletters, websites and links to share? Do you have RCM questions?

RCM News is always looking for interesting information, tips and resources to share with other resource conservation managers. Our goal is to increase your success by sharing what you and your colleagues are doing – with energy efficiency measures, problem-solving, communication, data tracking, presentations, and more. In addition, WSU Energy Program can help find solutions to your RCM program’s technical and programmatic questions. [Email Karen](#) to share and ask!

Washington RCM Support

The Washington State University Energy Program provides RCM support. Check out the “RCMx” website: <http://www.energy.wsu.edu/PublicFacilitiesSupport/ResourceConservation/RCMx.aspx>. We appreciate any feedback on this site and would also appreciate items to add to our resources, such as tools, examples of policies and job descriptions.

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Previous issues of RCM News may be viewed at <http://www.energy.wsu.edu/PublicationsandTools.aspx>

(click on Resource Conservation in the right hand column).

We welcome comments or ideas for articles. Please send to Karen Janowitz - janowitzk@energy.wsu.edu



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