

2023 ENERGY STAR® Awards

Part 1: Sustained Excellence Award Application Energy Management – Industry

The simple
choice for
energy
efficiency.



About the Award

Energy efficiency remains a critical strategy in the fight against climate change. The ENERGY STAR Sustained Excellence award acknowledges sustained superior energy efficiency and accomplishments in the decarbonization of buildings and plants. **ONLY** applicants awarded Sustained Excellence in 2021 and/or 2022 should complete this application. If your organization has not been awarded Sustained Excellence for Energy Management in either of the past two years, please download and complete the *Partner of the Year – Energy Management Award Application* instead.

Eligibility:

ENERGY STAR industrial partners awarded *Sustained Excellence* in 2021 or 2022. Please review the General Instructions before completing this part of your application. **NOTE:** There is a separate application for ENERGY STAR commercial and institutional building partners.

Description:

This award recognizes businesses and organizations that demonstrate their commitment to environmental protection through a foundation of superior energy management in partnership with ENERGY STAR as well as advancement of decarbonization goals, strategies, and best practices. Winning applications must clearly show the organizations' commitment to and success in maintaining their superior energy management using ENERGY STAR tools and resources, while demonstrating thought leadership and progress on further decarbonization of their portfolios.

Criteria:

Sustained Excellence in the ENERGY STAR program entails active involvement as a partner, portfolio-wide top performance in energy efficiency, and the continued growth and innovation of energy efficiency and decarbonization practices. The 2023 ENERGY STAR Awards are based on work completed and savings demonstrated **during the past 12 months**. Selected accomplishments outside of this time period may be mentioned for reference in your application to demonstrate continuous improvement but will not be considered as evidence of meeting award requirements in 2022. Applications will be evaluated on:

- Demonstration of leadership, including active engagement and promotion of the ENERGY STAR partnership, actions that improved and strengthened the energy program, and quality, quantity, and impact of communication efforts.
- Sustained or improved energy performance.
- Demonstration of advancements made toward organization-wide decarbonization.

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Materials:

Be aware that EPA will refer to material in applications in its promotion of winners' achievements. Please do not include confidential data in an application. **Applications citing or including confidential business information will NOT be evaluated.**

PART 1: Award Accomplishments Document

(use the following information to create a Word or PDF file)

Accomplishments Narrative (Part 1):

Part 1 of the award application consists of four sections which form the accomplishments narrative:

Section 1 – ENERGY STAR Participation at a Glance *(does not count toward page limit)*

Section 2 – Advancing Energy Efficiency

Section 3 – Advancing ENERGY STAR

Section 4 – Advancing Decarbonization

The application must be no longer than **five pages** (not including Section 1 or supporting files) and use a minimum of 12-point black font. Margins must be no less than 1 inch on all sides. Pages that exceed these limits will not be evaluated.

Supporting Files (Part 2):

Applicants are encouraged to submit electronic copies of supplemental materials that support the application if these are clearly referenced within the narrative. Supplemental materials will not count toward the five-page narrative limit, but **must be directly relevant to energy management, your application, and/or ENERGY STAR**. Each applicant must submit at least one item in **PART 2: Supporting Materials**. *(required)*.

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Section 1 – ENERGY STAR Participation at a Glance

Please **complete the following table** to quantify your activity in key ENERGY STAR initiatives. All values entered should be for the past twelve months and up until the date of application submittal. A number or N/A must be entered in all fields; **do not leave any fields blank**.

(Note: Cut and paste this table into your accomplishments narrative for editing. The table does not count toward the page limit.)

| Benchmarking the Portfolio | Response |
|--|----------|
| Number of plants that can be benchmarked using ENERGY STAR plant energy performance indicators (EPI) (i.e., if there is an EPI available) | |
| Number of plants that have been benchmarked over past 12 months using ENERGY STAR plant energy performance indicators | |
| Number of plants benchmarked over past 12 months by other means | |
| Number of buildings benchmarked in Portfolio Manager in past 12 months | |
| What types of facilities are you benchmarking with Portfolio Manager? (list type, e.g., warehouse, office, etc.) | |
| ENERGY STAR Recognition | Response |
| Total number of ENERGY STAR Plant Certifications in past 12 months | |
| Number of Sites Achieving Challenge for Industry | |
| Number of Sites Taking the Challenge for Industry | |
| Is company an active participant in an ENERGY STAR Industry Focus? (Y/N) | |
| Number of ENERGY STAR Treasure Hunts recorded with the Find the Treasure Campaign and carbon and energy savings <i>identified</i> in these hunts in 2022 | |
| Carbon and energy savings in 2022 <i>achieved</i> from implementing findings of Treasure Hunts | |

Section 2 – Advancing Energy Efficiency

Improving energy efficiency is critical to reducing carbon dioxide emissions and protecting the climate, and represents a large opportunity across the built environment. For example, a recent study estimates that the U.S. industrial sector has the potential to reduce its carbon dioxide emissions by 86% in 2050, with 34% of that reduction coming from energy efficiency measures (Worrell, Boyd, 2022). Similarly large opportunities exist in the commercial buildings sector.

ENERGY STAR expects recipients of Sustained Excellence status to improve and enhance energy management systems, structures, engagements, personnel, funding, etc. year over year. In this section, you

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will tell the story of how your organization sustained and advanced its energy management program in 2022. Please address the following points and provide examples of each accomplishment.

- Describe how strategies described in last year's application informed and paved the way for accomplishments in 2022.
- Show that your organization built upon and improved its energy management platform (as was recognized with an ENERGY STAR award in years past).
- Explain how your organization has improved energy performance in 2022. Complete the 2022 Energy Performance Results table below.
- Convey how your organization's energy program is pushing the limits of energy efficiency beyond levels achieved previously.

Evidence includes, but is not limited to, the following achievements (provide detailed descriptions where appropriate):

- Increased numbers of ENERGY STAR certifications of buildings and plants over prior years
- Sustained certifications of buildings and plants (i.e., long-time certified sites)
- Increased ENERGY STAR scores for a portfolio of plants (show how the average score has changed)
- Increased achievements with the Challenge for Industry
- Focused projects on research, development, or pilot testing of innovative new approaches
- Increased monetary investment in energy efficiency projects (e.g., formed an energy capital fund in 2022 that paid for \$7 million in projects)
- Investment in process-related equipment, infrastructure and people that results in measured improvements in energy performance
- Improved project financial criteria that encourage long-term investment in energy efficiency (e.g., adoption of 5 year or greater payback periods on projects with energy efficiency benefits)
- Successful engagement of other organizations (e.g., supply chain companies, customers, industries, etc.) in energy management and ENERGY STAR
- Incorporation of energy equity and environmental justice considerations into your energy program.

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2022 Energy Performance Results

Copy the following table into your narrative and complete it as directed. If your company’s energy program is global, you may choose to include all operations worldwide or only the operations in the U.S. Please identify whether the information you share is U.S. only or global. Please be sure to use the proper units and intensities as stated in the table.

(Note: Cut and paste this table into your Accomplishments document for editing)

| | |
|---|--|
| 1. Number of facilities tracked and benchmarked | |
| 2. Total number of facilities operated | |
| 3. Total output, in units, which apply to the business of your company and correlate with energy usage, e.g., ft ² , tons of a specific product, etc. for 2022 | |
| 4. Aggregate energy intensity for 2022** in MMBtu/total output | |
| 5. Aggregate energy intensity for the corresponding period in 2021 in MMBtu/total output | |
| 6. Change in energy intensity (#4-#5) | |
| 7. Aggregate energy intensity for the corresponding period in an earlier year*** in MMBtu/total output | |
| 8. Change in energy intensity (#4 - #7) | |

**Calculate using 12 months of continuous data. Due to the deadline for this application, it is acceptable to complete the 12-month period using data from the final two months in 2021, e.g., the data period could be from November 2021 through October 2022.

***Selection of the specific year is at your discretion. If 2022 represents the first year for which energy was tracked, please enter “not available” in rows 7 and 8.

Lines 7 and 8 in the table are requested to enable a view of your energy program’s long-term energy savings. To further illustrate these long-term savings, you may provide equivalent dollars saved, carbon dioxide emissions prevented, or other production equivalents for the time periods represented in the table.

It is helpful to EPA to understand changes in business activity that may have impacted energy use in the past 12-month period. Provide an explanation when appropriate. In addition, describe any efforts to normalize data, such as accounting for weather, climate differences, or other business effects.

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Section 3 – Advancing ENERGY STAR

ENERGY STAR promotes energy efficiency as a critical resource that supports organizational performance, environmental protection, and consumer cost savings. ENERGY STAR partners are expected to aid in promoting the program to audiences that stand to benefit from ENERGY STAR resources.

Describe, in approximately 1-2 paragraphs each, your 3 most notable communications initiatives undertaken in 2022 related to promoting ENERGY STAR as a resource for improving energy performance in your organization, or among your stakeholders and/or community.

- At least one of the initiatives must be focused on external audiences, such as the general public, customers, visitors, shareholders, etc.
- All initiatives should heavily integrate ENERGY STAR messaging and leverage the ENERGY STAR brand.
- If applicable, please describe any initiatives you've undertaken to identify and promote energy equity and environmental justice best practices

Propose a webinar your organization could present to ENERGY STAR stakeholders to support dissemination of energy management best practices. Each year, EPA hosts a Partner of the Year Award winner webinar series which highlights the best practices, lessons learned, and innovations of a select group of award winners. All applicants must propose at least one webinar title, possible speaker(s) and titles, and a short description of a webinar your organization would be willing to deliver in 2023 if requested. EPA will select approximately 5-10 to deliver in 2023 from those submitted by all award winners. If your webinar is selected, EPA will work with your organization to refine and finalize the webinar content, timing, and participants.

Section 4 – Advancing Decarbonization

Describe your organization's decarbonization strategy. Make sure to include:

- The stage of implementation (i.e., implemented, developing, early stage or under study) along with supporting information about your decarbonization progress.
- How energy efficiency fits in among other strategic opportunities such as electrification, increased use of renewables, and other approaches to decarbonization that your organization may be taking.
- If applicable, how you've incorporated equity and environmental justice considerations into your decarbonization strategy.
- Key decarbonization efforts undertaken in 2022 that are separate from actions described in Section 2.

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Prepare/Gather Documents for Upload

PART 1: Accomplishments Document (in Word or PDF)

PART 2: Supporting Materials (at least one required, as described in the Application Instructions above)

PART 3: Organization's High-Resolution Logo (required)

ENERGY STAR® is the government-backed symbol for energy efficiency, providing simple, credible, and unbiased information that consumers and businesses rely on to make well-informed decisions.

The public reporting and recordkeeping burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 8 hours per response. Send comments on the Agency's need for this information, the accuracy of the provided burden estimates, and any suggested methods for minimizing respondent burden, including through the use of automated collection techniques, to the Director, Collection Strategies Division, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (2822T), 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW, Washington, D.C., 20460. Include the OMB control number in any correspondence. Do not send the completed form to this address.