SESSION 3C

A NEW WAY TO CUT TAXES? ENERGY SAVINGS IN PUBLIC BUILDINGS

Two papers explore opportunities for energy and cost savings in public buildings: one through building commissioning and one through a variety of techniques aimed at efficient use of office equipment. Both papers present results of intensive case studies using creative evaluation methods.

Moderator: Luisa Freeman, Academy for Educational Development

PAPERS:

Estimating The Energy Savings Potential For Low-Cost, Easy-to-Implement Measures In County Government Offices

Katherine Johnson, KJ Consulting, Frederick, MD
Carol Sabo, PA Consulting, Washington, D.C.

Determining the Total Costs and Benefits of Commissioning Public Buildings

Bing Tso, SBW Consulting, Inc.
Lisa Skumatz, SERA, Inc.
David Cohan, Northwest Energy Efficiency Alliance

SESSION SUMMARY:

This session shares the results of two thorough evaluations of the potential for energy savings in government buildings. Both projects used a case study approach to measuring impacts and then projecting the potential for savings over a larger population of buildings. The first paper presents first-year results from the market potential analysis and evaluation of the Local Government Energy-Efficient Product Procurement Program (GEEP-NY), funded by the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA). Targeting the county government sector with low-cost, easy-to-implement energy-efficiency measures, the program focuses on educating, encouraging and facilitating the procurement and proper enabling (or power management) of ENERGY STAR® labeled office equipment. The second paper presents the methodology and results of a cost-benefit analysis of 21 commissioning efforts undertaken as part of the program. Through telephone surveys with key commissioning team members and engineering analysis of project documentation, this study determined the overall incremental costs of commissioning, as well as the economic value of direct benefits such as reduced energy use, as well as indirect non-energy impacts, such as improved occupant comfort and fewer building operational problems.