

# DRIVING BUILDING UPGRADES WITH PRACTICAL ENERGY MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES

November 1, 2021

**20** years of saving energy for  
**Wisconsin.**

# Presenters



Tom Dragotta,  
Lead Energy Advisor



Chris Seitz,  
Energy Advisor



# Agenda

- Introductions
- FOCUS ON ENERGY® Overview
- Impact of Energy Management
- Practical Energy Management (PEM) Model
- Review Business Case Template
- Questions



# Training goal



- Recognize energy consumption can be controlled
- Create a template for more successful project buy-in
- Understand the impact of establishing an energy management team
- Create a healthier and more productive environment





# FOCUS ON ENERGY®

## Overview



# Economic impact

- Since 2001, saved businesses more than \$151 million in annual energy costs
- For every \$1.00 invested, Focus on Energy creates more than \$4.80 in benefits for the state of Wisconsin
- A study of statewide energy efficiency programs by the Berkeley Lab found Focus on Energy runs the most effective program in the nation
- Visit [focusonenergy.com/evaluation-reports](https://focusonenergy.com/evaluation-reports) to view the full report



# Services



## Building a Case for Energy Efficiency

- Custodian
- Teacher w/ Energy Interest
- Alliant Energy PM
- Lawyer - Sustainability
- Mech Eng
- Accountant
- Facilities Manager
- Elec Eng
- Parent
- Veterinarian
- Farmer
- Post-Office

- Technical assistance:
  - Unbiased expert advice
  - Industry expertise
  - Energy evaluations
  - Education and training sessions
  - Network of vendors and market providers
- Financial incentives



# Financial incentives



- Energy efficiency:
  - Lighting
  - Compressed air
  - HVAC
  - Motors and drives
  - New construction
  - Custom projects

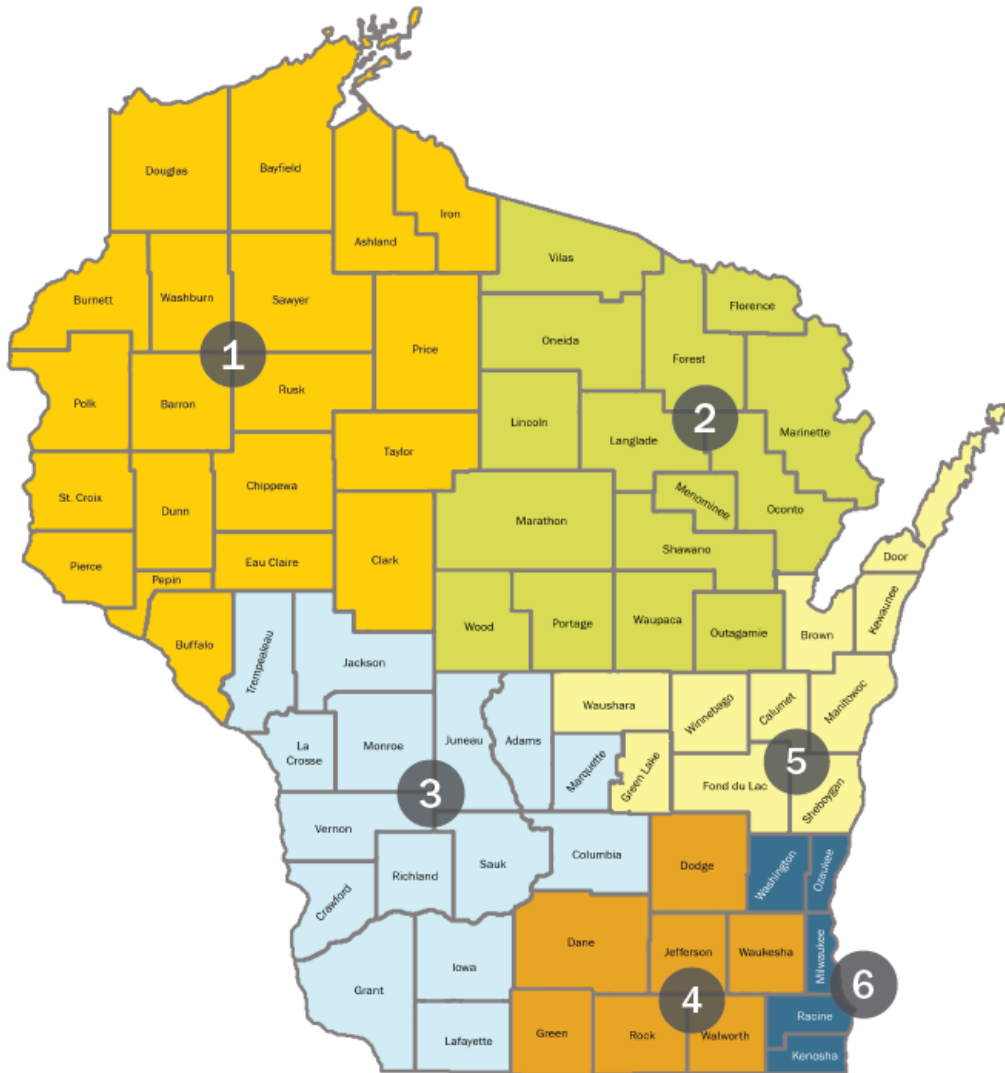


# Financial incentives



- Renewable energy:
  - Solar electric
  - Solar hot water
  - Wind
  - Biomass
  - Biogas

# 2021 Energy Advisor Map



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# Impact of Energy Management





# Why is energy management important?

- Energy is a business issue
- Energy improvements are an investment, not a cost
- Energy saving low-cost/no-cost initiatives
- Building tune-ups via Retro-Commissioning





# Why is energy management important?

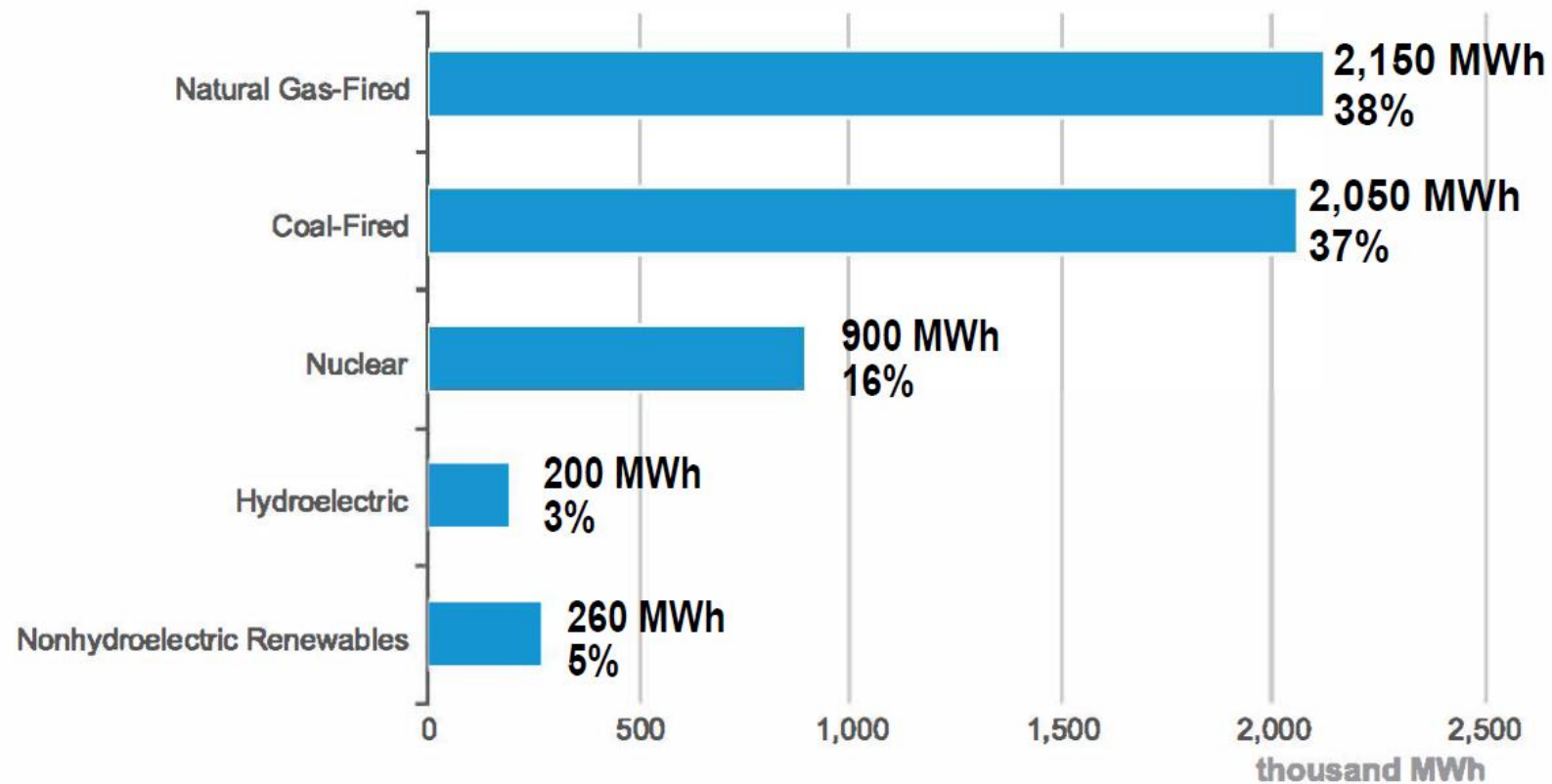
- Can result in 6% reduction in building energy use intensity<sup>1</sup>
- **Demand may account for as much as 25% of the cost of your monthly electric bill**
- Operational changes alone can save significant energy
- Increases occupant comfort
- Increases safety and reliability (light levels, etc.)
- Electrical utility rates have consistently risen and the natural gas market can be volatile

<sup>1</sup>Meng, T., Hsu, D. and Han, A., 2020. Measuring Energy Savings From Benchmarking Policies In New York City. [online] Aceee.org. Available at: [https://www.aceee.org/files/proceedings/2016/data/papers/9\\_988.pdf](https://www.aceee.org/files/proceedings/2016/data/papers/9_988.pdf).



# Why is energy management important?

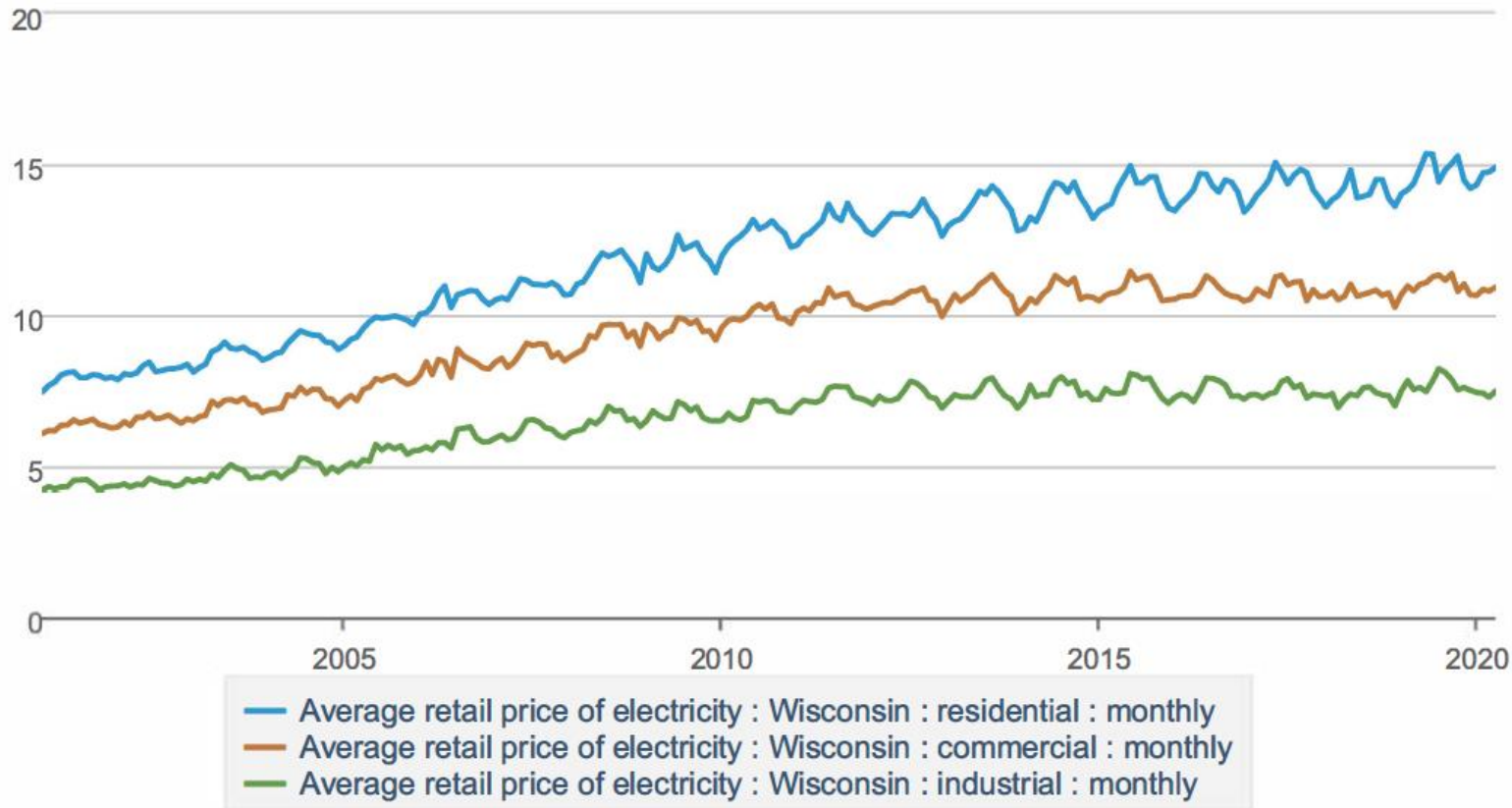
Wisconsin Net Electricity Generation by Source, Jan. 2020



# Why is energy management important?

## Wisconsin Average Retail Price of Electricity, by Sector

cents per kWh



Data source: U.S. Energy Information Administration



# Practical Energy Management (PEM) Model





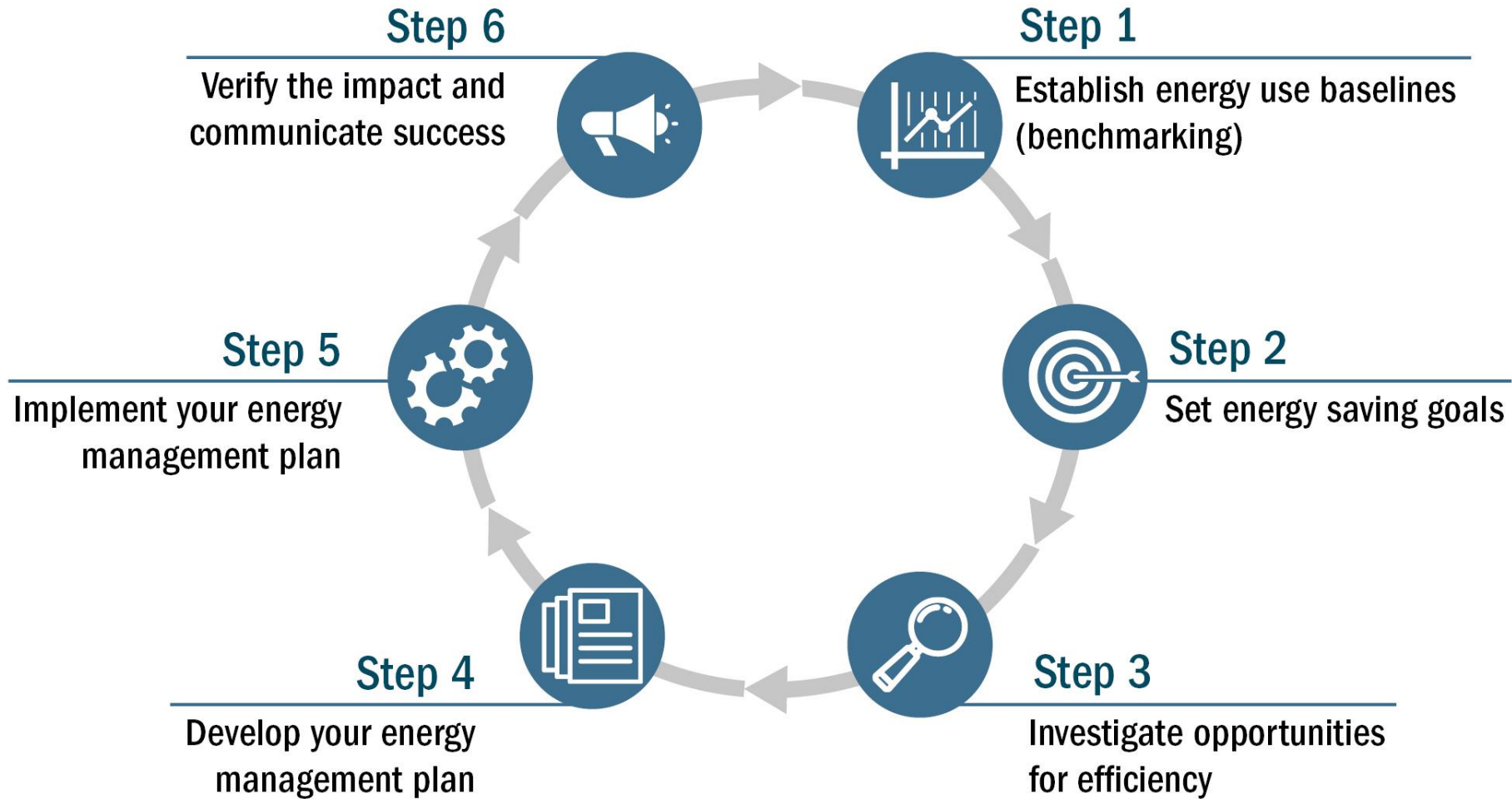
# Goal of PEM



- Create an energy management program and team that is:
  - Strategic
  - Measurably effective
  - Attainable goals
  - Sustainable for years



# PEM process model

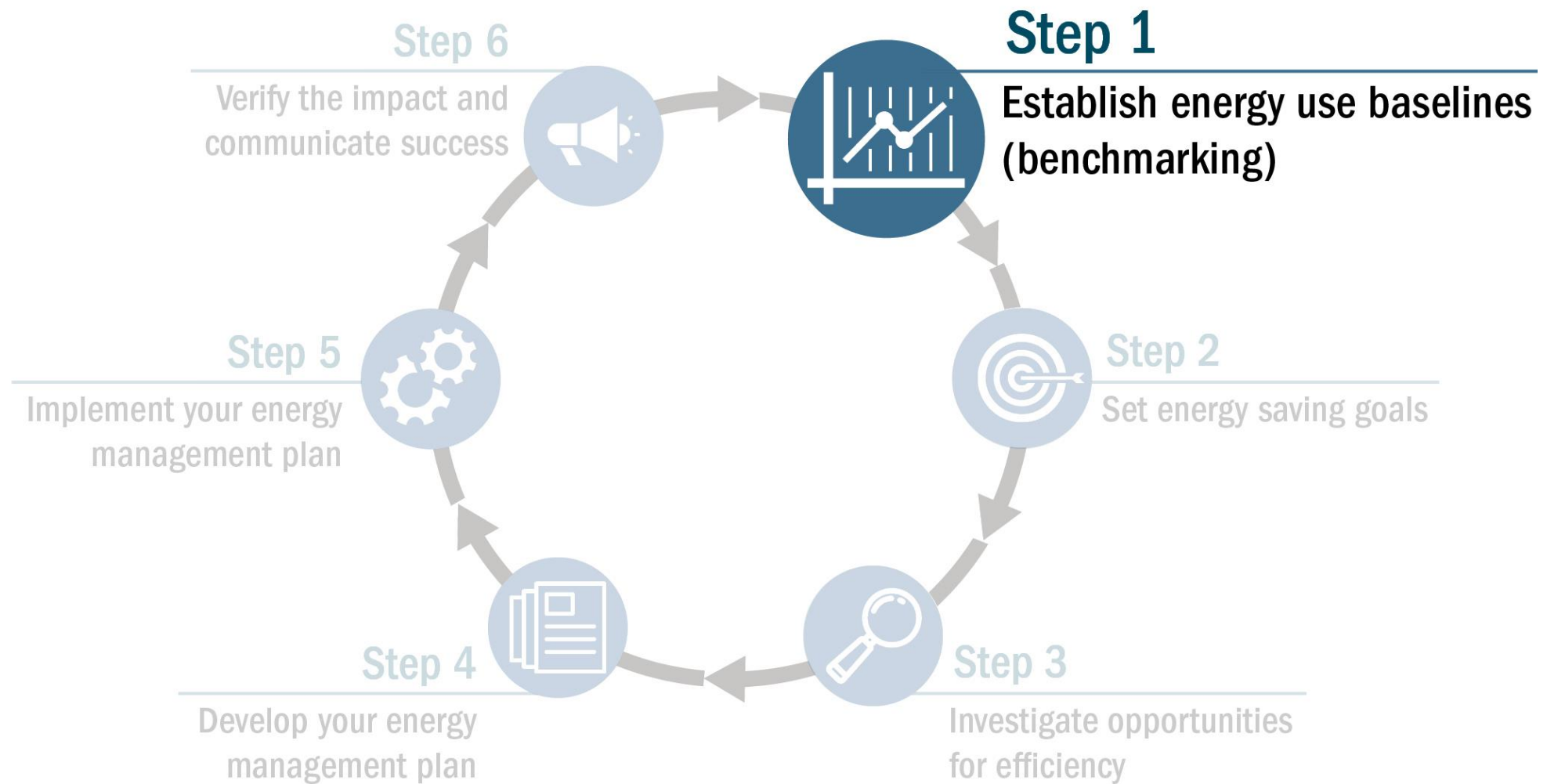


# PEM team



- Cross-functional team consists of:
  - Budget manager
  - Facility manager
  - Maintenance staff
  - Upper management
  - Building occupants
- Equipped with an Energy Team Toolkit

# Step 1: Establish energy use baselines





# Benchmarking

- Measuring a building's weather normalized energy use and compares it to the average for similar buildings
- Allows owners and occupants to understand their building's relative energy performance
- Helps identify opportunities to cut energy waste
- *You can't manage what you don't measure*

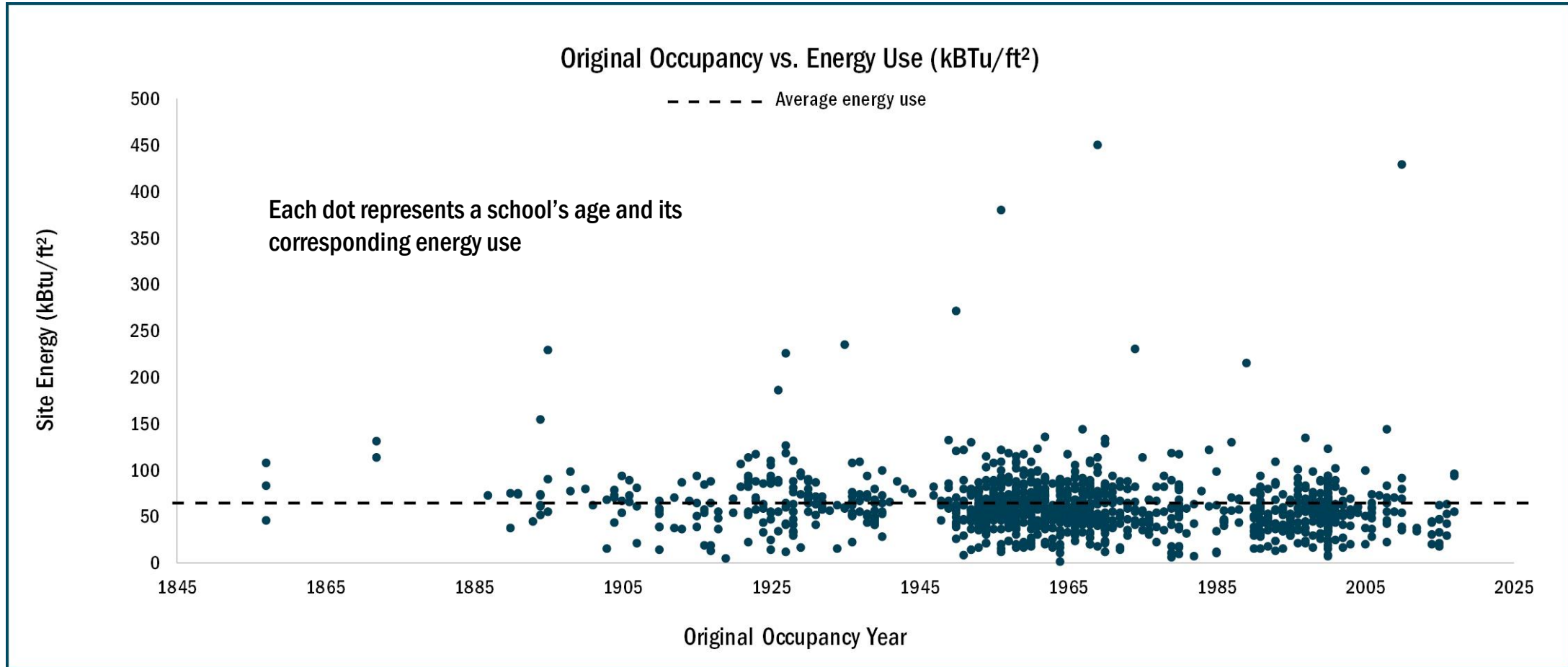


## Step 1

Establish energy use baselines  
(benchmarking)



# Occupancy vs. energy use

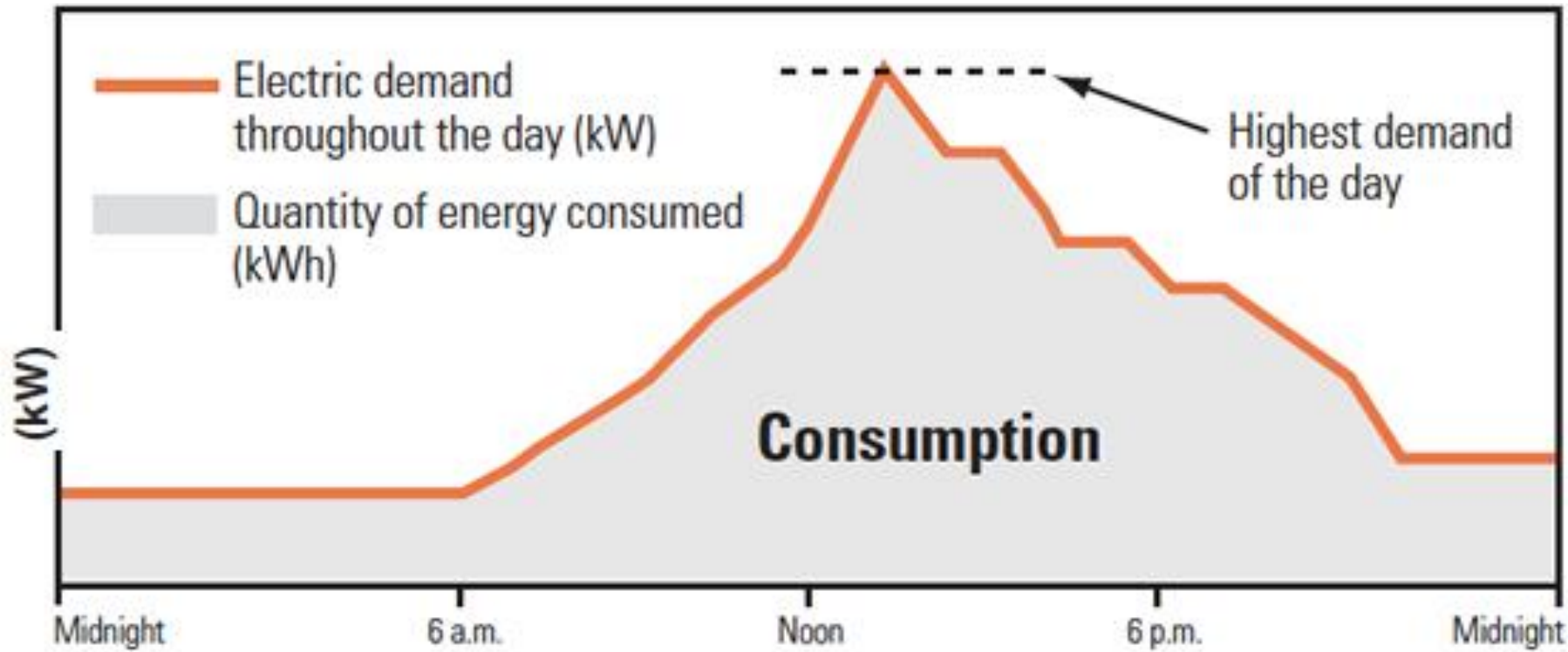


## Step 1

Establish energy use baselines  
(benchmarking)



# Electrical demand (kW) and energy (kWh)



## Calculating Demand Costs

kWh Off Peak

$500 \text{ kW} \times \$13.80 = \$6,900$

kWh On Peak

$500 \text{ kW} \times \$1.85 = \$925$



## Step 1

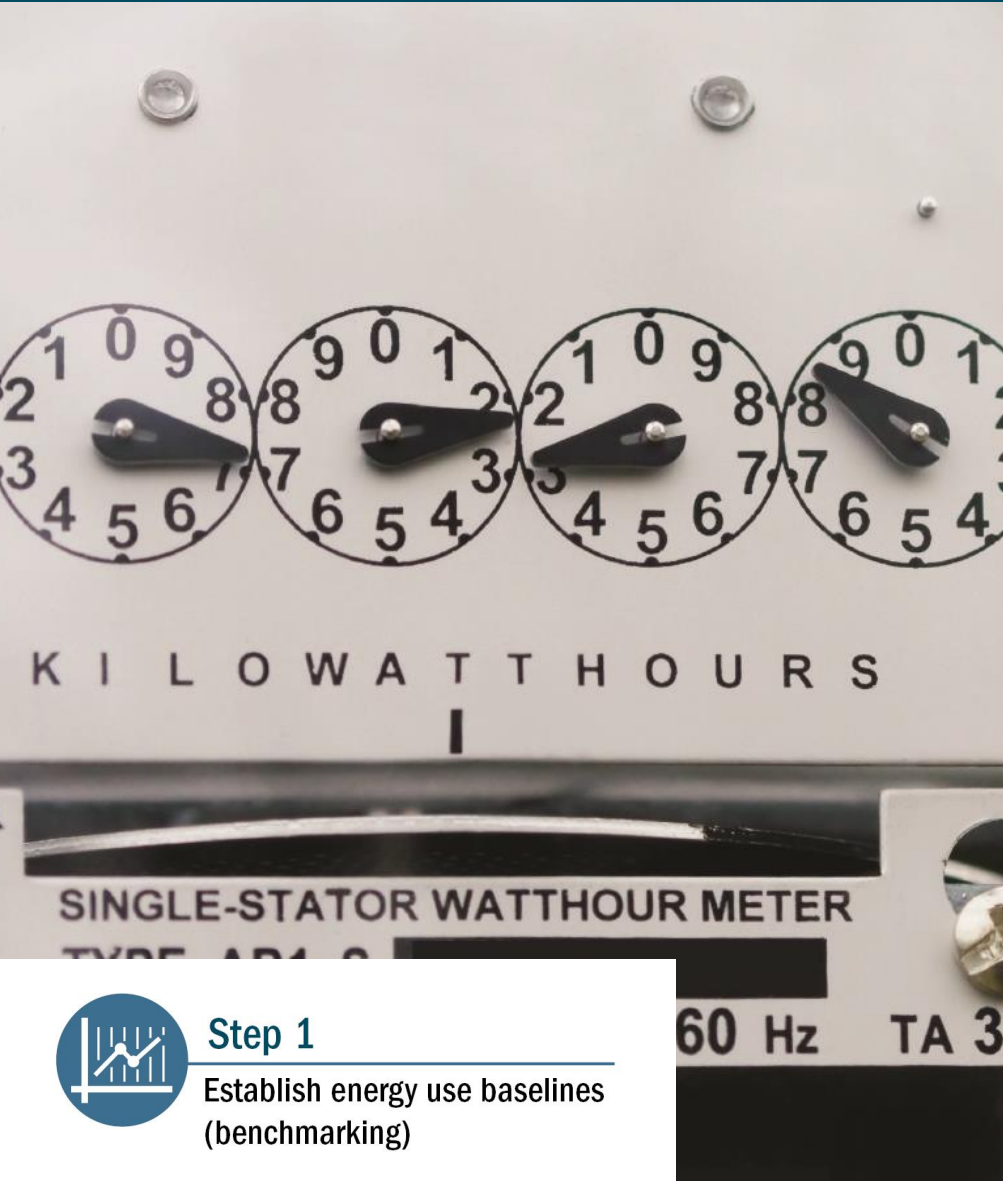
Establish energy use baselines  
(benchmarking)



**We Energies**  
Energy You Can Depend On



# Understanding your utility bill - electric



- Know your electric rate:
  - When is your demand window?
  - 8 am to 8 pm?
- Review history:
  - What is your baseline?
  - When are your peaks?
  - Can equipment be set to run off-peak?



## Step 1

Establish energy use baselines  
(benchmarking)





# Benchmarking with ENERGY STAR Portfolio Manager®



- **FREE** online tool provided by ENERGY STAR to measure and track energy
- Benchmark the performance of one building or a portfolio of buildings in a secure online environment
- Starting point for Practical Energy Management



## Step 1

Establish energy use baselines  
(benchmarking)



# Portfolio Manager

To get started benchmarking in Portfolio Manager you will need...

1. Property information:
  - Primary function
  - Name, address, zip/postal code
  - Year built
  - Gross floor area
2. Property use details, e.g.:
  - Operating hours
  - Number of computers
  - Number of workers, etc.
3. Consumption data for all resources you need to report for the duration of the compliance period



## Step 1

Establish energy use baselines  
(benchmarking)

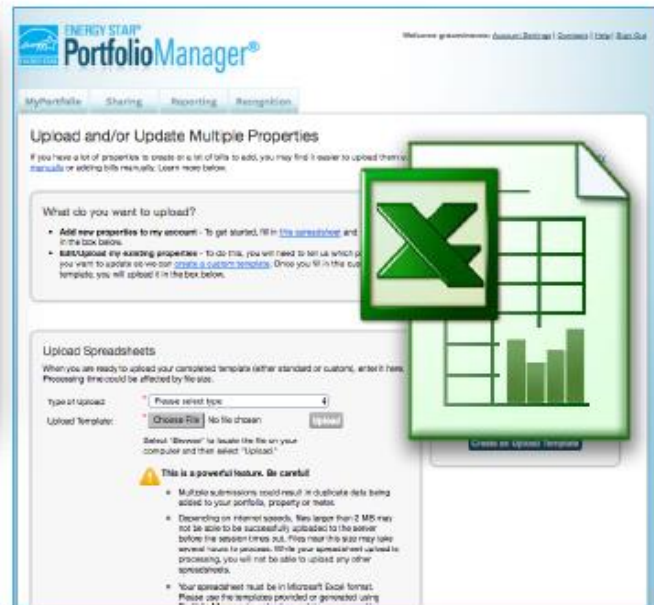


# Entering data into Portfolio Manager

Manual entry



Spreadsheet upload



Automated data uploads



Choose the best data management method.



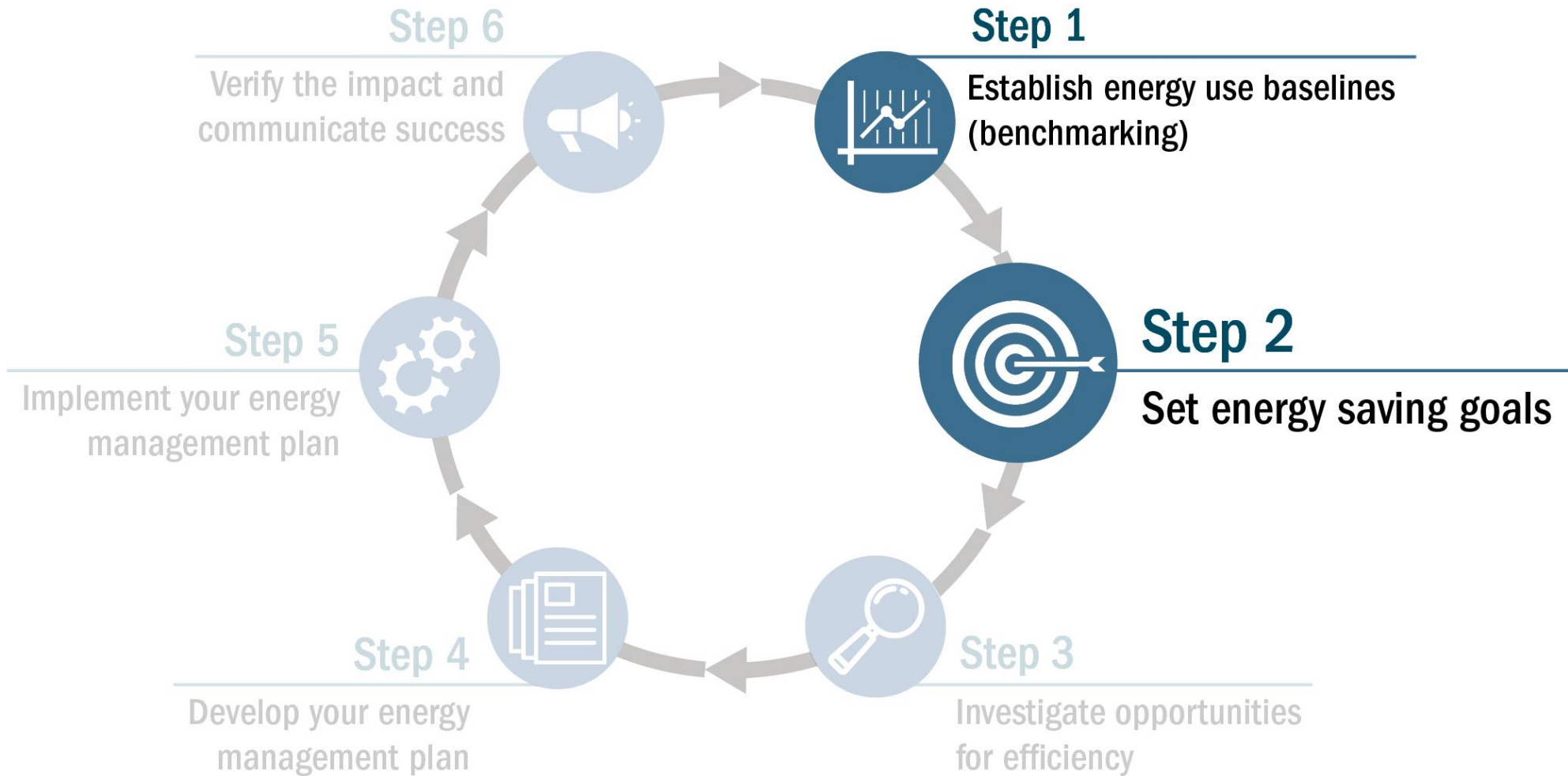
Step 1

Establish energy use baselines  
(benchmarking)

Source: ENERGY STAR®



# Step 2: Set energy saving goals





# SMART goals

**S**pecific

Clear, well defined

**M**easureable

Metrics determine goal achievement

**A**chievable

Attainable at the right level of difficulty

**R**esults oriented

Describes the expected outcome

**T**ime bound

Accomplished within a given time frame

# SMART goal activity



- What do you measure?
- What's important to your organization?
- What are your performance indicators?
- How are SMART goals communicated to the organization?

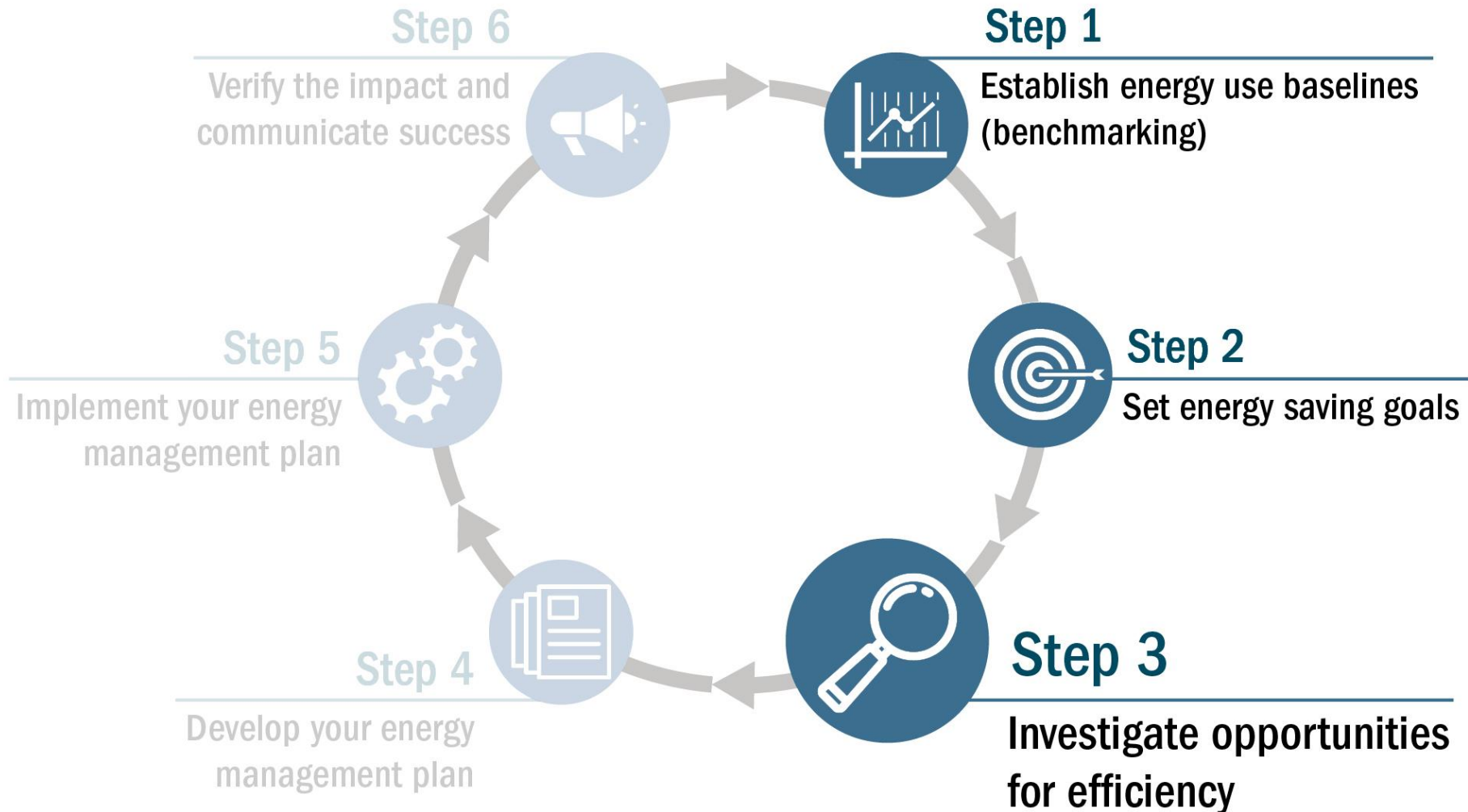


Step 2

Set energy saving goals



# Step 3: Investigate opportunities for efficiency



# Opportunities for efficiency



- Monthly walk-through
- System inventories:
  - Equipment list
  - Model numbers
- Electrical and natural gas diagrams
- HVAC prints:
  - Piping
  - Ventilation



## Step 3

Investigate opportunities  
for efficiency





# System inventories



- Equipment list:
  - Manufacturer
  - Location including image
  - Date installed
  - Model numbers (wear items)
  - Efficiency
  - Service schedule



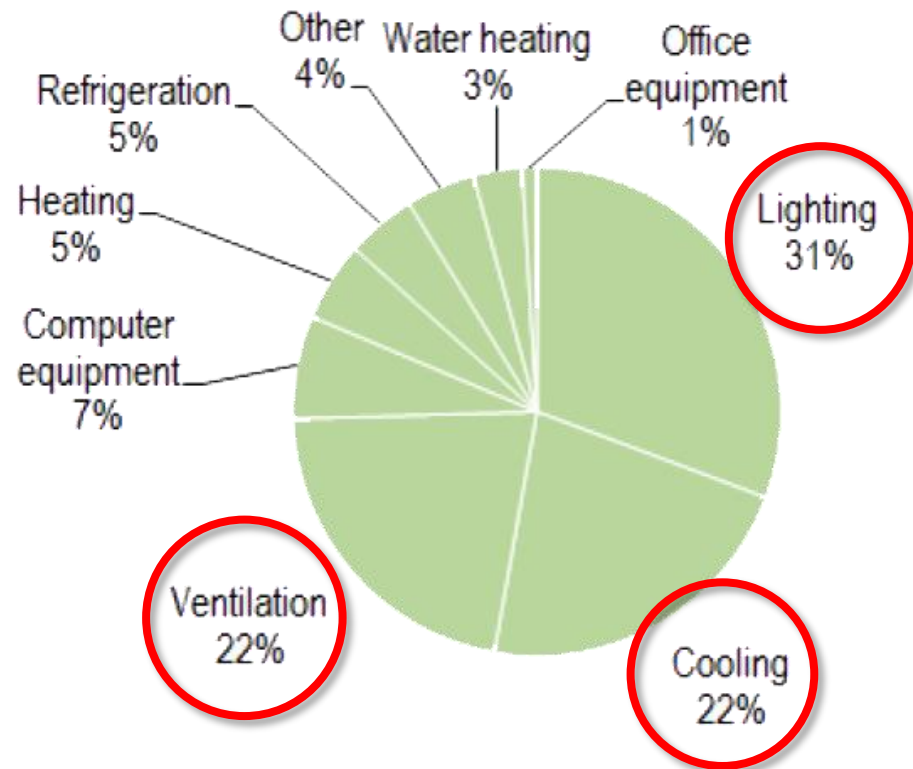
## Step 3

Investigate opportunities  
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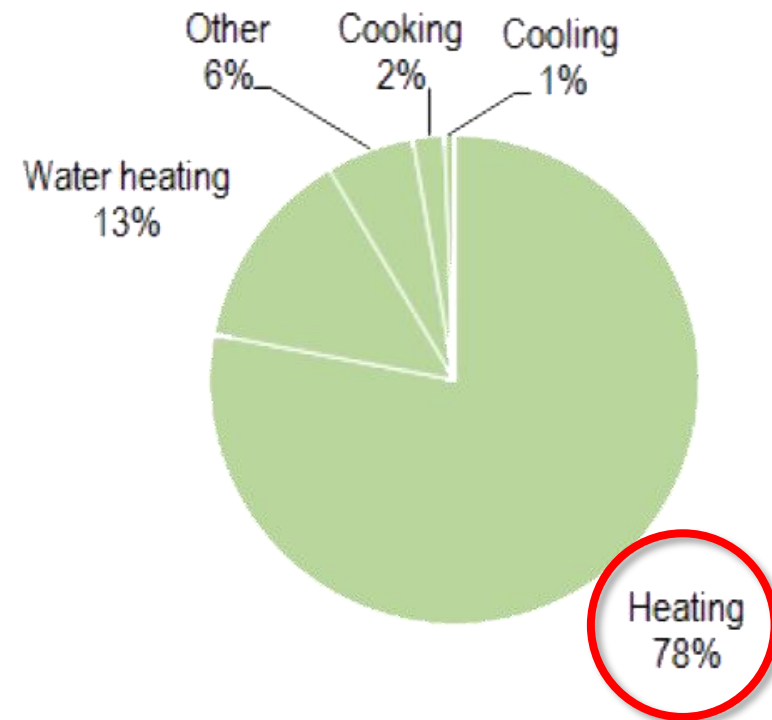


# Energy sources

A. Electricity usage



B. Natural gas usage



Data from US Energy Information Administration (2020)



Step 3

Investigate opportunities for efficiency



# Keep up with your building



- Make a note of any changes
- Inventory when you upgrade
- Perform a small amount of building analysis and review every week



## Step 3

Investigate opportunities  
for efficiency







# Common building issues



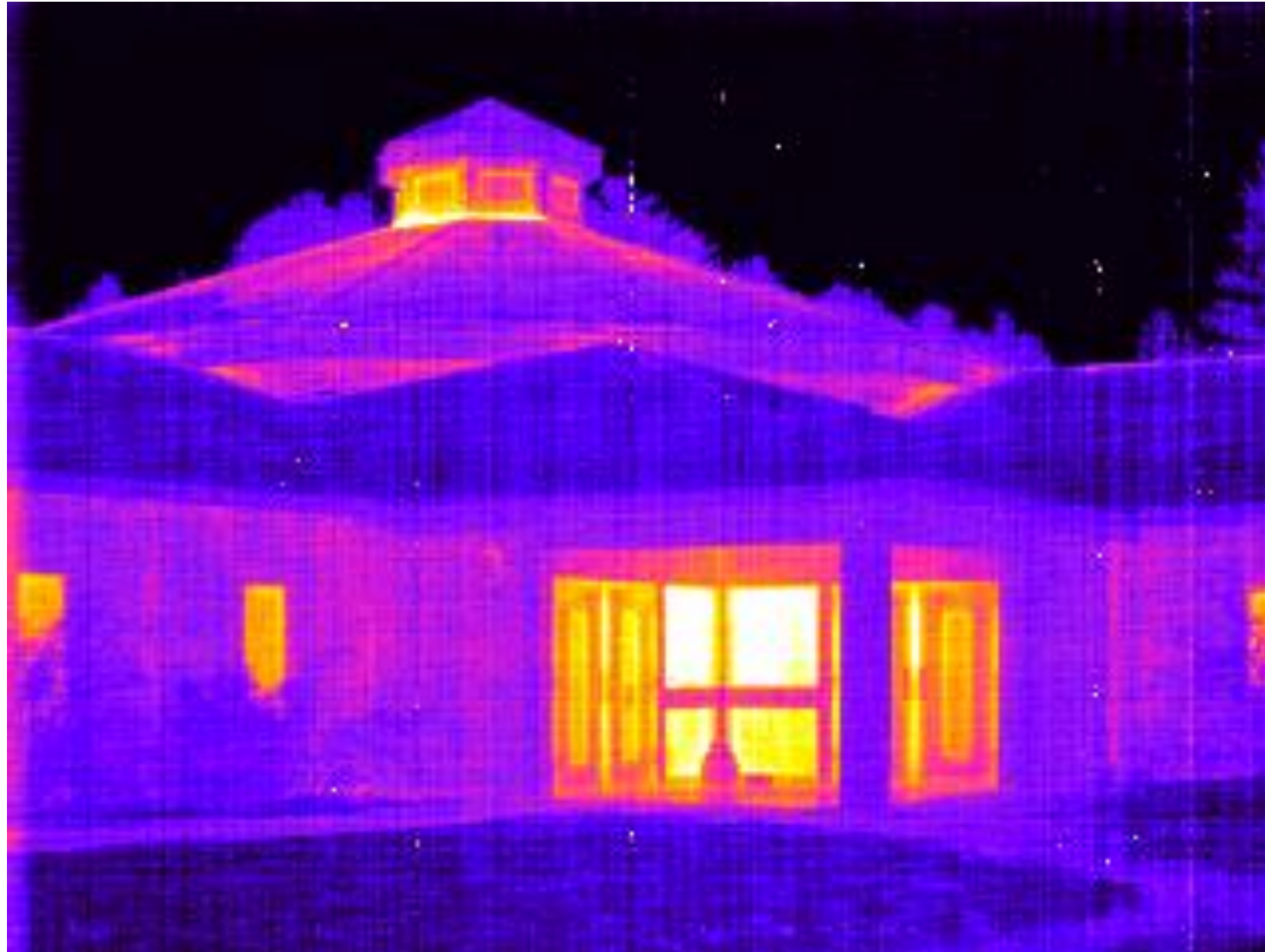
## Step 3

Investigate opportunities  
for efficiency





# Heat loss



## Step 3

Investigate opportunities  
for efficiency



# Positive air pressure



## Step 3

Investigate opportunities  
for efficiency





# Insufficient lighting



## Step 3

Investigate opportunities  
for efficiency



# Steam system malfunction



## Step 3

Investigate opportunities  
for efficiency





# Unclean air intake

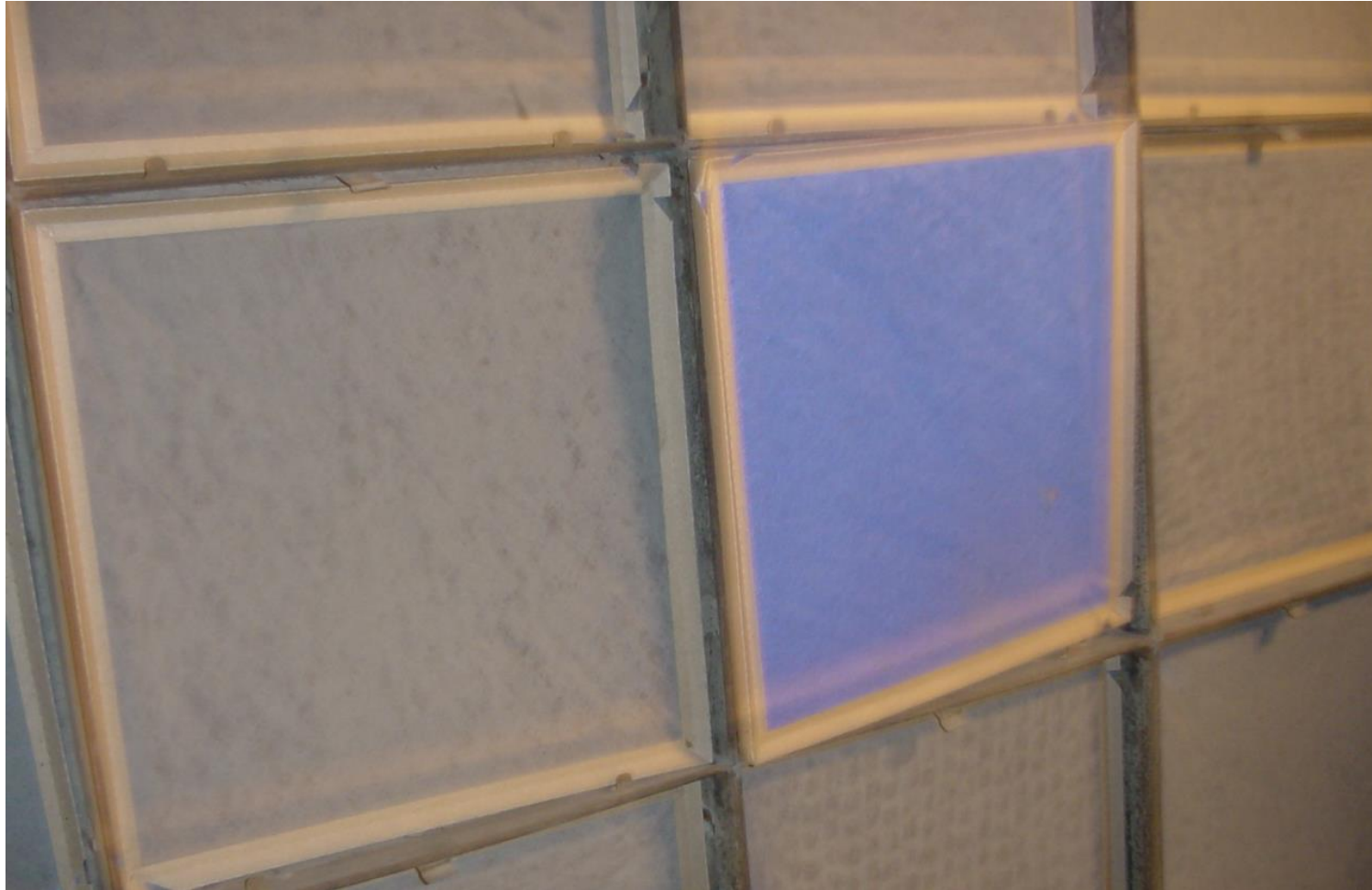


Step 3

Investigate opportunities  
for efficiency



# Dust-covered air filters



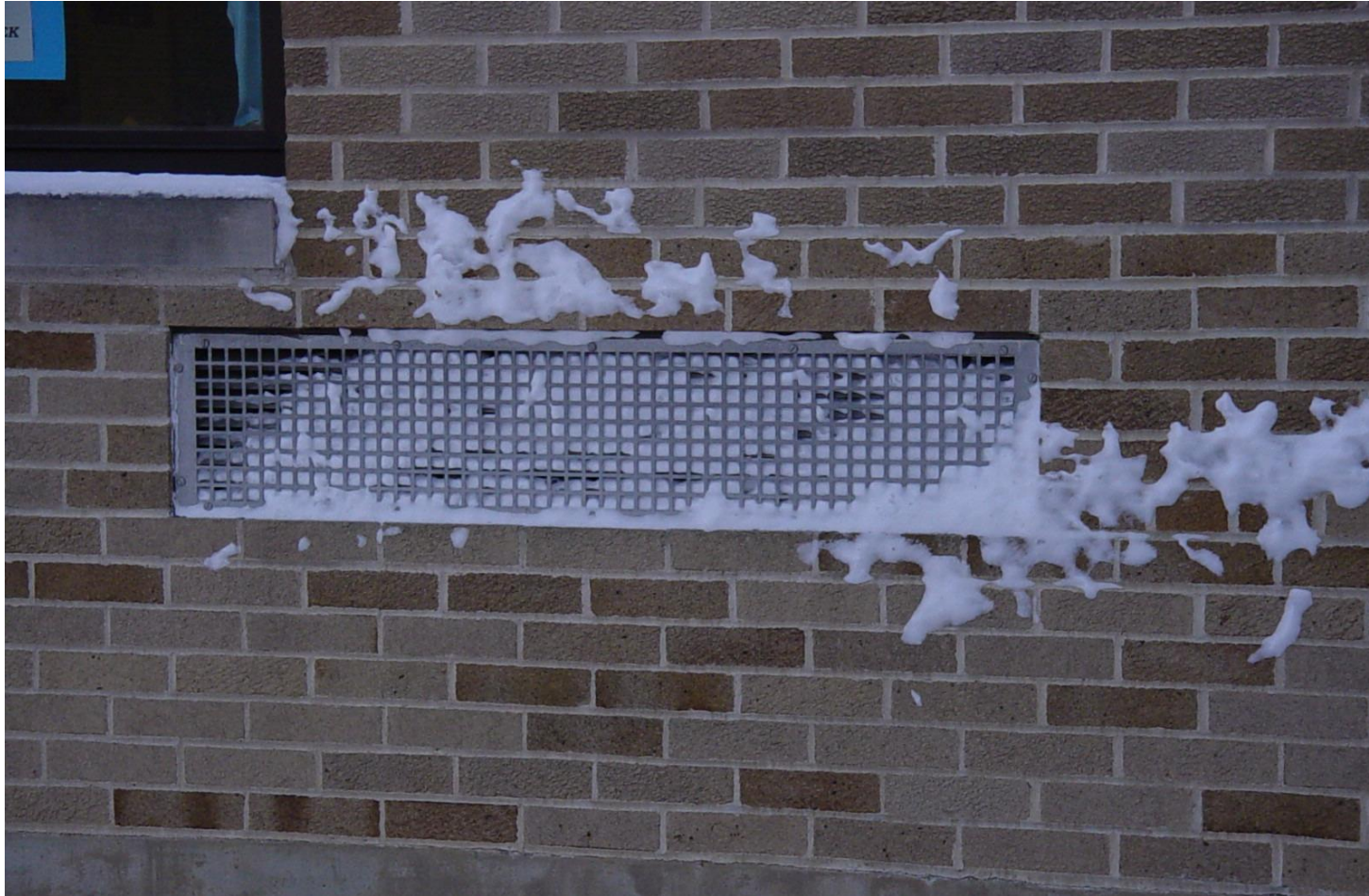
## Step 3

Investigate opportunities  
for efficiency





# Fouled air intake from snow removal

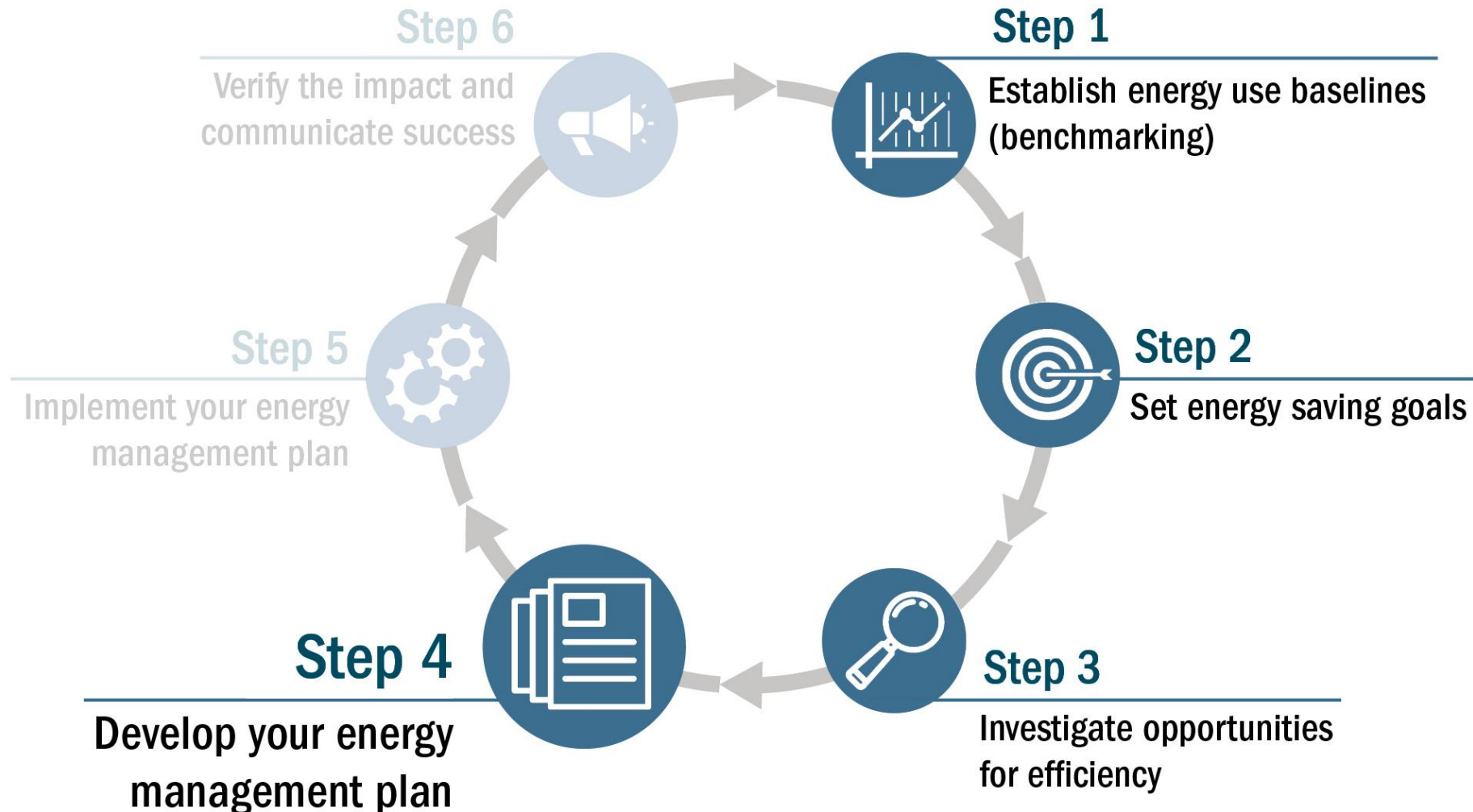


## Step 3

Investigate opportunities  
for efficiency



# Step 4: Develop your energy management plan





# Energy management plan best practices

- Board mandated energy policies
- Operations and maintenance
- Preventive maintenance (PM) strategies
- Document best practices for operational consistency



## Step 4

Develop your energy management plan



# Board mandated energy policies

## Board Policy Manual

733-Rule

### A. Heating and Air Conditioning

1. Classroom thermostats will be set at 68 degrees for heating and 76 degrees for cooling during the occupied times. For unoccupied times, heating will be set at 55 degrees and cooling will not occur.
2. Auditorium thermostats will be set at 68 degrees for heating and 74 degrees for cooling during the occupied times. For unoccupied times, heating will be set at 55 degrees and cooling will not occur.
3. Hallways, vestibules, stairwells, mechanical/electrical rooms, elevator equipment rooms, unoccupied storage areas and similar spaces will be adjusted to 55 degrees during the heating season.
4. Locker and shower rooms will be maintained at 70 degrees during the heating season.
5. Gymnasiums, locker rooms, swimming pools, food service occupancies, mechanical/electrical rooms, unoccupied storage spaces, vehicle service and storage buildings, industrial/shop occupancies, utility buildings and similar areas will not be air conditioned.



#### Step 4

Develop your energy management plan



# Operations and Maintenance (O&M)



- Routine O&M actions will:
  - Improve equipment operating efficiency
  - Prolong equipment life
  - Reduce the need for costly “emergency” repairs
  - Help manage ever increasing energy costs



## Step 4

Develop your energy  
management plan





# Impact of O&M actions



- Reduce lighting related electricity use by as much as 30%
- Reduce winter space heating costs up to 30%:
  - Scheduling
  - Established energy policy
  - BAS setpoints
- Cut HVAC energy use by 15% - 30%



## Step 4

Develop your energy management plan





# Preventative maintenance



- \$1.00 spent on preventative maintenance results in a savings of \$5.00 on future maintenance for higher education

Source: State of Wisconsin, Department of Administration and the University of Wisconsin



## Step 4

Develop your energy management plan



# Low-cost/no-cost opportunities



- Lighting:
  - Delamping
  - Occupancy sensors – restrooms
- HVAC:
  - Adjust set-points/schedules
  - Demand management
- Building envelope:
  - Caulking and sealing
- Retro-commission buildings



## Step 4

Develop your energy management plan



# Low-cost/no-cost opportunities



- Occupant education
- Turn off/turn down:
  - Computer monitors
  - Overhead/desk lights
  - Smart boards
  - Charging stations
- Make energy a standard meeting agenda item **AND** create an energy team
- Focus on Energy's Energy Team Toolkit!



## Step 4

Develop your energy management plan





# Operation cost savings



- Calculated outside air reduction
- MERV 13 filters
- Hot water and boiler temperature setpoint
- Hours of operation:
  - Building automation system
  - Timers
  - Occupancy sensors



## Step 4

Develop your energy management plan





# Building Automation System (BAS)

- Goal:
  - Increased occupant comfort and energy savings
- BAS allows building operators to easily:
  - **Set-up** – Allow space temperature to increase during cooling months
  - **Setback** – Reduce space temperature during unoccupied heating months
  - **OA reduction** – Reduce outside air during unoccupied times
  - **Hot water reset** – Reduce hot water temperature during milder winter months
  - **Scheduling** – Review ventilation rates due to CDC or other recommendations
  - Consider retro-commissioning to refine these setpoints



## Step 4

Develop your energy  
management plan



# Equipment improvement best practices



- LED lighting
- HVAC
- Office equipment
- Refrigeration
- Cooking
- Domestic hot water
- Miscellaneous loads

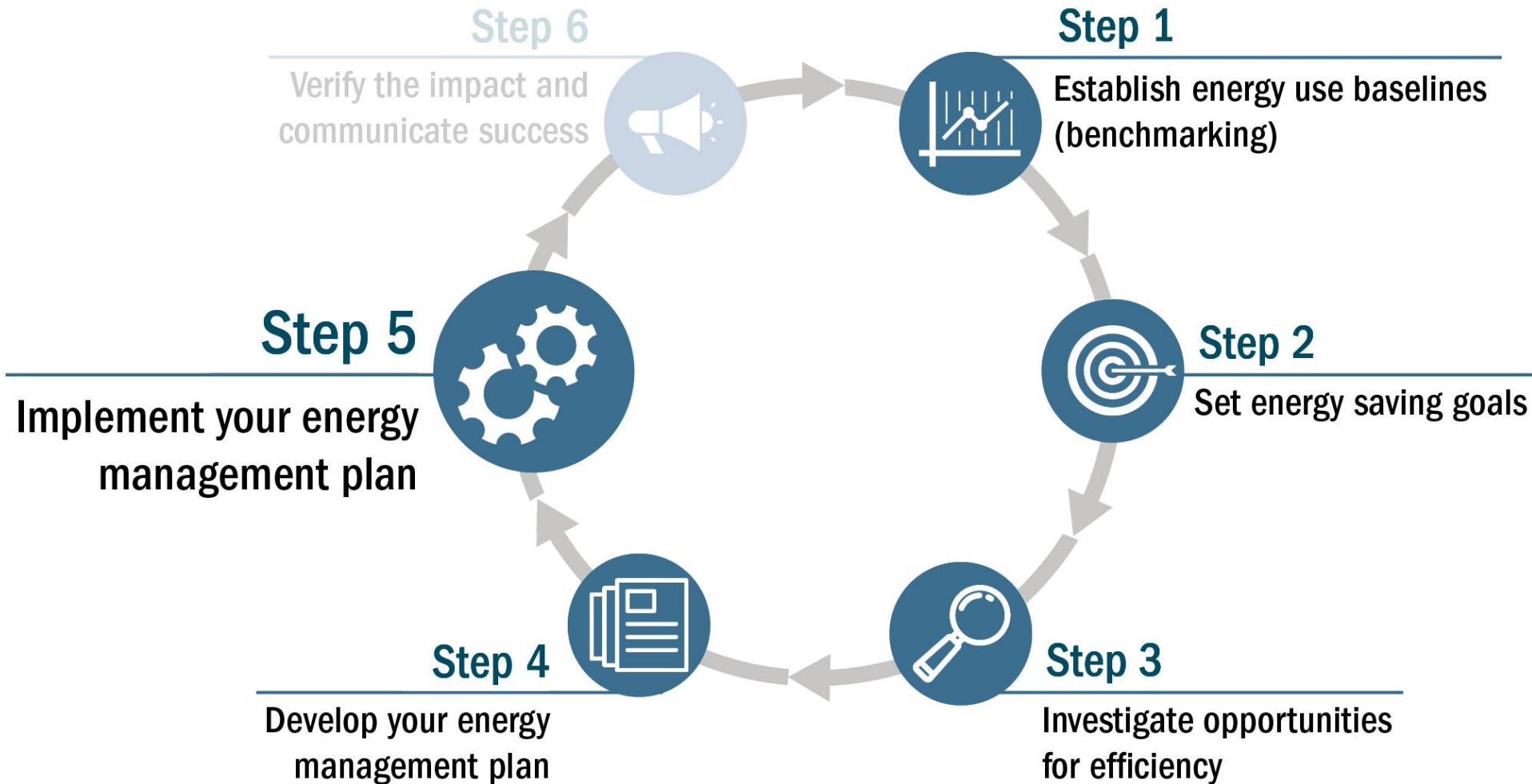


## Step 4

Develop your energy management plan



# Step 5: Implement your energy management plan



# Gather and prioritize project opportunities

- Develop potential project list
- Estimate project costs
- Identify energy and non-energy benefits
- Prioritize project list
- Select project to present to management team



## Step 5

Implement your energy  
management plan





# Project opportunities list

PROJECT UPGRADE LIST		PROJECT MANAGER	PROJECT RECOMMENDED	PROJECT COMPLETED	IN-HOUSE (I) - BID (B)	ESTIMATED ANNUAL SAVINGS	ESTIMATED MEASURE TOTAL COST	ESTIMATED YEARS SIMPLE PAYBACK	OPERATIONAL BUDGET	5 YEAR PLAN	FOCUS ON ENERGY	INCENTIVE AVAILABLE	ESTIMATED INCENTIVE AMOUNT
1	Install DCV on gym AHU	JK	Y		B	\$552	\$1,500	2.0	10	Y	N	Y	\$400
2	Convert classrooms to LED	JK	Y		I	\$5,200	\$26,800	3.9	18	Y	N	Y	\$6,242
3	Install VFD on chilled H <sub>2</sub> O pump	JK	Y		B	\$634	\$4,500	4.6	15	Y	N	Y	\$1,600
4	Classroom AHU's to DDC	JK	Y		B	?	\$63,000	?	15	N	Y	N	?
5													
6													
7													
8													
9													
10													
11													
12													
13													
14													



## Step 5

Implement your energy management plan



# Creating a business case



- Detailed project description
- Simple payback/financial analysis
- Implementation timeline
- Positive benefits and impact of project



Step 5

Implement your energy  
management plan



# Simple payback

$$\frac{\text{Project cost} - \text{Focus on Energy incentive}}{\text{Annual energy cost savings}} = \text{Simple payback}$$

- Could include other factors for a more complete picture:
  - Maintenance savings
  - Annual increase in utility rates
  - Cost of deferring a different project



## Step 5

Implement your energy  
management plan



# Financial analysis

- Annual savings (\$)
- Simple payback calculation:
  - $\frac{\text{Net investment}}{\text{Annual savings}} = \text{Payback period}$
  - Use Focus on Energy as a resource

95%+ GAS FURNACE						
ELECTRIC SAVINGS	THERM SAVINGS	TOTAL SAVINGS	PROJECT COST	FOCUS ON ENERGY INCENTIVE	TOTAL PROJECT COST	SIMPLE PAYBACK
493 kWh	308 Therms	\$243.94	\$4,000.00	\$220.00	\$3,780.00	15.50 years
EFFECTIVE USEFUL LIFE (EUL): 18 YEARS						



## Step 5

Implement your energy management plan





# Detailed project description

- Get to the point:
  - What do we need to do?
  - Why are we doing it?
  - How much will it cost?
  - What impact will it have?
- Timeline to complete
- Vendor proposal and references
- Equipment pictures
- Focus on Energy incentive or project buydown
- Positive contributions from project



## Step 5

Implement your energy  
management plan



# Implementation timeline



- Project milestones:
  - RFP preparation and release
  - Engineer/design contractor selection
  - Design and product selection
- Project timeline:
  - Equipment order dates
  - Installation timeframes
  - Project close out
  - Start-up/commissioning (if applicable)
  - Parties involved (or owner)



## Step 5

Implement your energy management plan



# Positive benefits



- Align with the organization's strategic priorities:
  - Building comfort
  - Safety and health
  - Reduce maintenance levels and duties
  - Overall building operations
  - Budget preservation



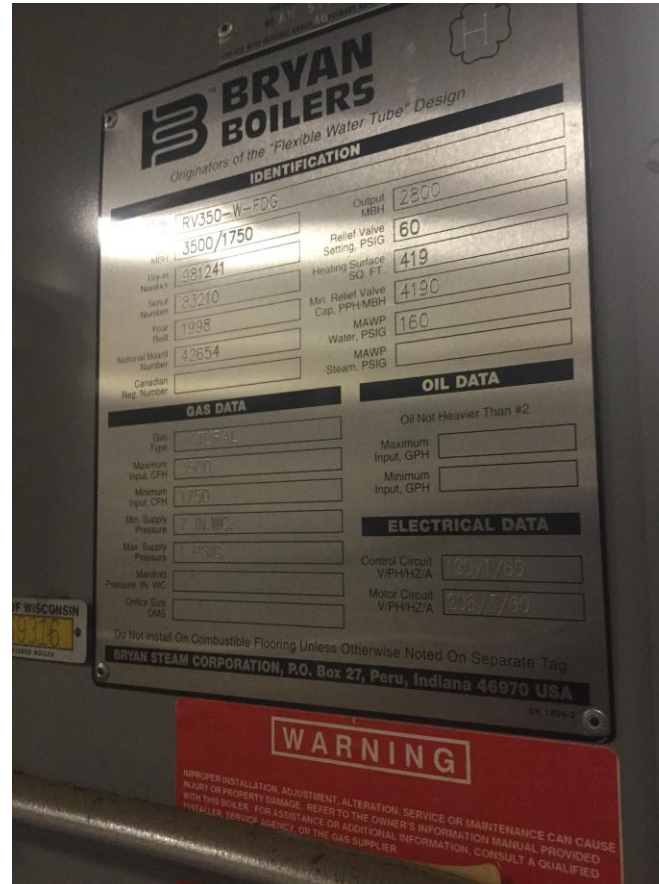
## Step 5

Implement your energy management plan



# Supporting materials

- Product literature
- Savings calculations
- Success stories from former projects



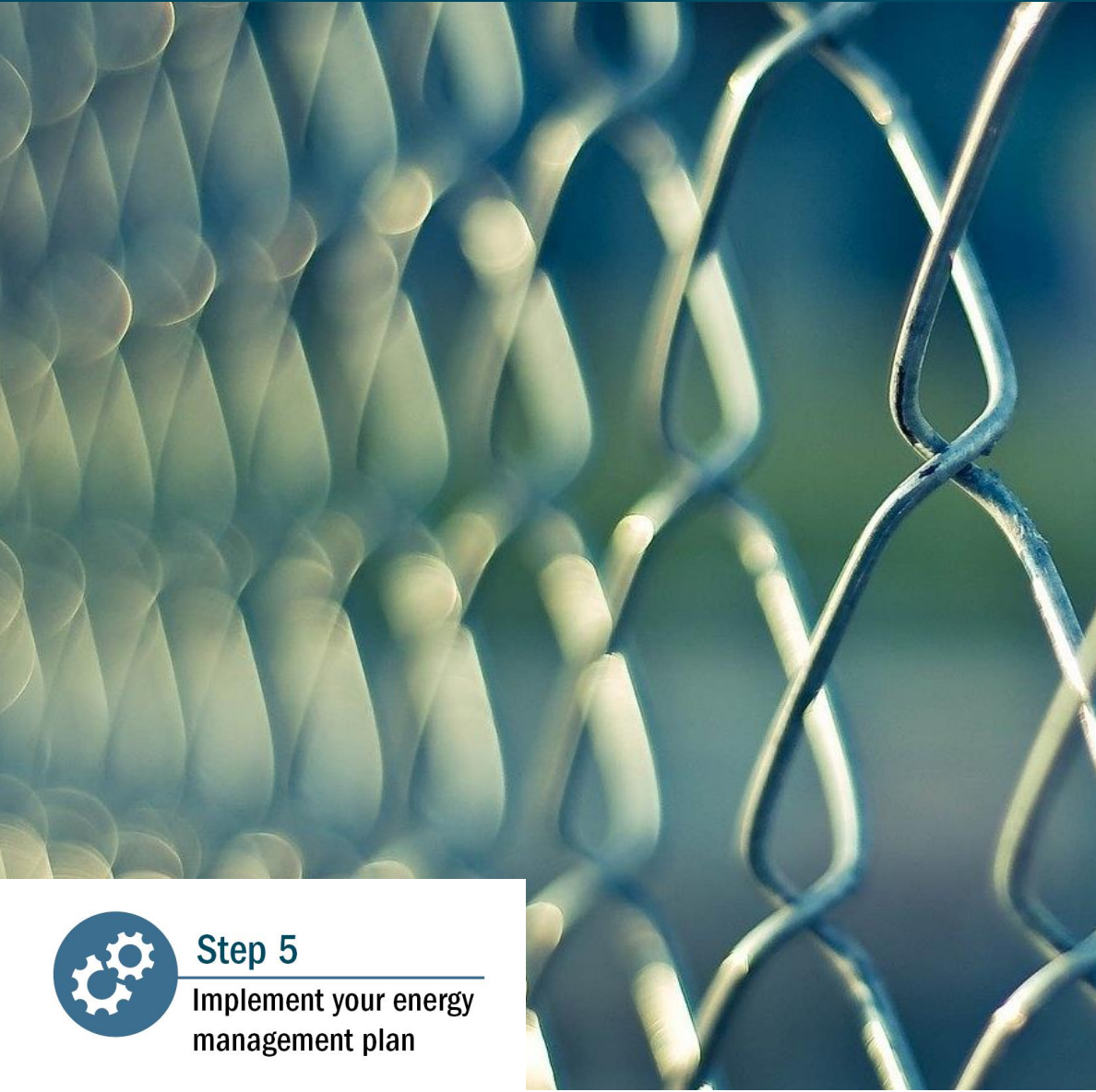
## Step 5

Implement your energy management plan





# Types of project resistance



- Misperception:
  - Lack of technology understanding – inform and educate
- Skepticism:
  - Not confident of facts – offer assurance through successful case studies



## Step 5

Implement your energy management plan



# Resources for help



- Your energy team
- Focus on Energy
- Utility representative
- Vendors
- Peers
- Other resources:
  - [www.epa.gov](http://www.epa.gov)
  - [www.energystar.gov](http://www.energystar.gov)

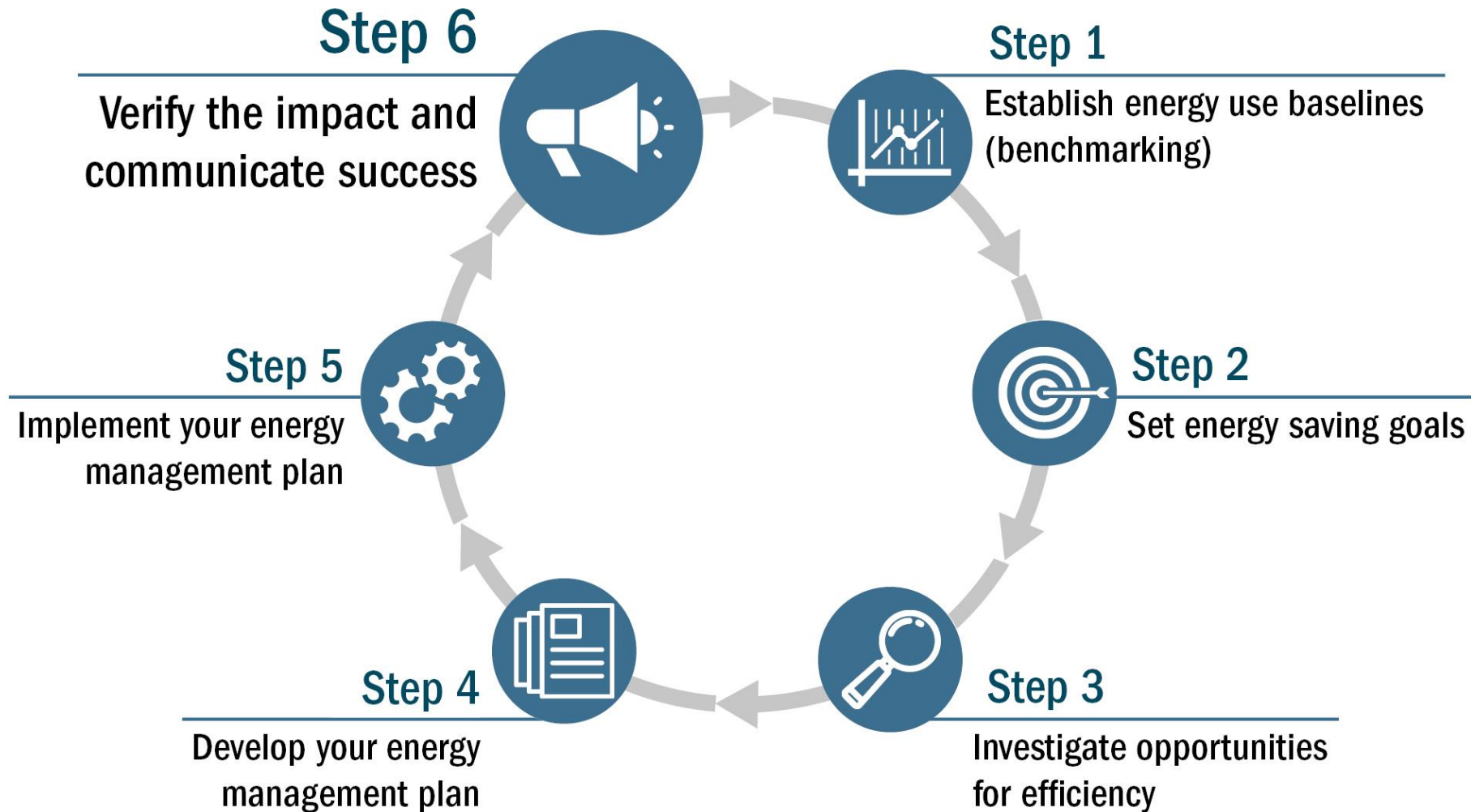


## Step 5

Implement your energy management plan



# Step 6: Verify the impact and communicate success





# Energy team background



- Northeast Wisconsin Technical College (NWTC) serves 20,000+ students every year
- Formed its Energy Management Team in 2007
  - Comprises staff members and representatives from its local utility and Focus on Energy
  - Meets once a month both virtually and in-person



## Step 6

Verify the impact and communicate success





# Energy savings



- Annual kWh savings
  - 900,000 kWh
- Annual therm savings
  - 9,000 therms
- Annual utility bill savings
  - \$80,000 per year
- Able to power 100 Wisconsin homes for an entire year



## Step 6

Verify the impact and communicate success



Thank You.

888.623.2146

[focusonenergy.com](http://focusonenergy.com)

20 years of saving energy for  
**Wisconsin.**

