

EFCOG Sustainability and Environment Working Group FY 2023 Annual Work Plan (October 1, 2022 – September 30, 2023)

Purpose

This document contains the Energy Facility Contractors Group (EFCOG) Sustainability & Environment Working Group (SEWG) FY 2023 Annual Work Plan (AWP). The approved AWP provides authorization for EFCOG members within the SEWG to work on activities identified in the AWP. It is intended that all deliverables identified in this AWP be completed during the fiscal year, however some activities may push into FY2024 due to changing priorities or other unforeseen circumstances, as occurred in FY2020 -FY2021 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. As a result, dates are generally not provided for deliverables.

Working Group Mission and Scope

The EFCOG SEWG is chartered to support member companies in collaborating to identify common issues and opportunities to work toward more effective and efficient environmental programs, develop and implement clean energy and energy efficient technologies, and leverage its mission to meet or exceed sustainability goal. Key objectives of the SEWG are to:

- Provide assistance among EFCOG member companies and collaborate with other EFCOG groups to improve sustainability and environmental performance across the DOE contractor community;
- Share lessons learned and develop best practices to improve the effectiveness of environmental management and sustainability programs;
- Identify the impact on DOE contractor operations due to changes in requirements and provide recommendations as necessary; and
- Operate within the EFCOG Charter and the Guidelines for Working Groups and Subgroups in EFCOG

The SEWG promotes integration and facilitation by partnering across the contractor community and collaborating with DOE/NNSA. The SEWG will collaborate in the technical areas of environmental management and sustainability, in order to:

- Advocate for strong and effective implementation of the ISO14001 EMS standard across the DOE complex;
- Develop and promote best management and operating practices;
- Facilitate information exchange on operating experiences, sustainability and environmental programs and processes;
- Design studies and develop position and technical papers to inform DOE/NNSA regulations and directives development processes of potential operational impacts where appropriate;
- Provide DOE/NNSA and member companies with access to a network of subject matter experts;

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- Support and promote member companies in developing and implementing cost efficient and operationally effective strategies of implementing sustainable and environmental sound processes and programs;
- Arrange for training and awareness workshops to enhance the competency of sustainability and environmental professionals.

In FY2022 the SEWG was elevated by the EFCOG Board from a subgroup of the Safety Working Group to a full working group. A key focus of the SEWG FY23 AWP is to complete the transition from a subgroup to a full working group. This process will include establishing subgroups with their own governance structures and addressing DOE's priorities for advancing decarbonization and environmental goals across the complex.

Approved by: *At executive committee meeting* Date: October 6, 2022
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Sustainability & Environment Working Group

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Activities	Benefits	FY23 Deliverable / Key Milestones
<p>SEWG 01 Implement Transition Plan to expand Sustainability and Environment Sub Group of the Safety Working Group to a separate Working Group.</p>	<p>To align with DOE's goals related to leading the nation in federal sustainability, decarbonization and environment stewardship and support the EFCOG board goals</p>	<p>Q1: Develop new charter and governance framework for working group. Q2: Complete gap analysis to evaluate existing communities of practice and activities that support sustainability, decarbonization and environmental stewardship and develop tactical focus for the Working Group for the next 3 years Q3: Establish new sub groups and realign task teams to focus on tactical areas identified. Q4: Hold annual meeting for newly formed SEWG.</p>
<p>SEWG 02 Hold bi-monthly webinar series to share best practices and regulatory updates related to sustainability, decarbonization, and environmental topics.</p>	<p>Webinars focused on peer learning and case studies provide resources that enable DOE sites to have greater impact on sustainability, decarbonization and environmental goals. In collaboration with DOE sponsors, sharing regulatory updates and implementation guidance improves efficiency of efforts at local sites and improves outcomes.</p>	<p>Q1 and Q2: Hold a 3 webinar mini-series focused on different dimensions of decarbonization. Planned topics include energy efficiency, DE&I, and funding strategies. Q3 and Q4: Hold 3 webinars focused on best practices identified by sub-groups/task teams of the SEWG.</p>
<p>SEWG 03 Leverage energy analytics to support energy and sustainability goals and support coordination with maintenance and operations staff</p>	<p>Increase energy and water efficiency by working with energy managers and maintenance and operations staff to collaborate in the use of energy analytics platforms in their energy management activities. Built upon FY21 and FY22 success in creating a sense of urgency for teams to tackle a real-life improvement opportunity at their sites and sharing those best practices across the DOE complex.</p>	<p>Q1-Q4: Meet quarterly to share additional best practices for energy analytics implementation.</p>
<p>SEWG 04 Provide resources and tools to better execute Guiding Principles for Sustainable Buildings across DOE Complex</p>	<p>Increase capabilities of sites to incorporate Guiding Principles into facility and infrastructure projects. Leverage best practice from sites that are meeting or exceeding the federal requirement and share with those sites who are struggling to meet the requirement.</p>	<p>Q2: Gather and distribute lessons learned on use of Checklist to wider SEWG community. Q4: Update checklist as needed and provide revised checklist (as appropriate) to SPD to incorporate into DOE Dashboard.</p>

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<p>SEWG 05 Host bimonthly presentations and share best practices to improve energy and water efficiency</p>	<p>Continuous advances in High Performance Computing (HPC) result in a steady and significant increase in energy and water use at DOE sites. The group is a forum for HQ and National Laboratories to dialogue on energy & water efficiency opportunities and for labs to leverage best practices.</p>	<p>Q1-Q4: Host presentations on data analytic systems, waste heat reuse, carbon pollution-free electricity, and cooling technologies.</p>
<p>SEWG 06 Support Sustainable Climate Ready Sites (SCRS) Program with EHSS-21</p>	<p>Environmental and sustainability performance varies across the DOE complex with some locations excelling in some areas but also struggling with others at the same time. The SCRS seeks to provide motivation by recognizing sites for both incremental progress towards environmental and sustainability performance measures, and leadership in key activities.</p>	<p>Q1: Promote SCRS Full program Roll-out Q1-Q4: Maintain and summarize feedback system and feed back input to EHSS-21 for incorporation into the program as needed.</p>
<p>SEWG 07 Facilitate DOE's transition to a Zero Emission fleet.</p>	<p>To achieve the metrics outlined in EO 14057 for 100 percent ZEV goals for light-duty vehicle acquisitions by 2027 and medium-duty and heavy-duty vehicle acquisitions by 2035, DOE sites must start planning for infrastructure needs to better understand the impacts of a fleet that will be 100 percent ZEV. This group will meet regularly to coordinate, ask questions, and share lessons learned to create efficiencies and quicker adoption towards the ZEV goals.</p>	<p>Q1-Q4: Host two webinars that will focus on available tools, training, case studies, and lessons learned to help sites with their goals for electrification. Q2: Conduct a benchmark survey to assess where sites are at with fleet electrification. Q3: Develop guide templates to use for EV Driver training.</p>
<p>SEWG 08 Promote best practices for safe and efficient labs.</p>	<p>On-going peer sharing of success with the Smart Labs Toolkit and site specific experiences will help accelerate adoption of these ideas improving safety, reducing energy, and increasing sustainability and efficiency in laboratories. This will support DOE's sustainability, decarbonization, and environmental goals.</p>	<p>Q1: Formalize subgroup structure and identify FY23 tasks based on the September 2022 workshop; Q2: Develop training session(s) and step by step guidance for how to create a Laboratory Ventilation Management Plan based best practices / lessons learned from participant organizations. Q3: Provide training and step by step guidance.</p>

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<p>SEWG 09 Identify and share resources, best practices, and tools related to reducing carbon emissions to help sites meet DOE decarbonization goals.</p>	<p>Early investigation, planning and coordination across DOE sites will leverage knowledge and efficiencies of scale to support DOE sites in accelerating decarbonization activities. Activities will focus on promoting decarbonization of heating systems, new technologies, and long-term planning.</p>	<p>Q3: Following the decarbonization focus mini-webinar series, evaluate gaps that DOE sites feel they have in planning and implementing decarbonization efforts and identifying appropriate role SEWG can plan. Q4. Develop action plan for SEWG to support DOE in implementing decarbonization at the site level.</p>
<p>SEWG 10 Coordinate with DOE's Net Zero Labs (NZL) Initiative</p>	<p>Experiences from DOE National Labs who developed and started to implement decarbonization plans will offer lessons learned and best practices that can apply to the DOE complex. SWG will coordinate with the NZL initiative help facilitate the sharing of information and acceleration of action across the DOE complex.</p>	<p>Q1: Establish a regular schedule and frequency of interaction with the NZL Initiative and define the pathway for key outputs from the NZL initiative to be shared with the wider DOE complex. Q2 - Q4: Continue on-going coordination and share lessons learned and best practices through planned SEWG webinars, meetings and communication channels.</p>
<p>SEWG 11 Support DOE/NNSA contributions to land and habitat conservation goals in Executive Orders 14008 and 14072</p>	<p>Explore data needs and channels for information gathering across DOE sites on natural resources management/preservation topics specific to EO 14008 (requiring agencies to conserve 30% of US lands and waters by 2030, and EO 14072 (requiring agencies to restore and conserve mature forests and to identify key opportunities for greater deployment of nature-based solutions, including through potential policy, guidance, and program changes).</p>	<p>Q3: Following update of SEWG charter and re-organization, scope data needs, identify and evaluate data gaps and opportunities to support DOE responses to CEQ's requests for updates to its Conservation Action Plan (EO 14008). Q4: Identify strategies to support DOE in requesting and organizing information from sites to support DOE development of policies or guidance to support EO requirements.</p>