

SEMHub Q4 2022 Updates & Resources

Welcome to the December 2022 newsletter from SEMHub—a community of Northwest practitioners dedicated to saving energy through strategic energy management. If you have questions about SEMHub, or have stories you'd like to see featured, [contact us](#).

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Reminder: Last Call for the 2023 Working Groups Survey

Before the [deadline on December 9](#), please take five minutes to fill out the 2023 SEM Collaborative Working Groups survey to help us know: 1) if you'd like to be an active participant in one or more groups, 2) whether you can take on a leadership role in the group(s), and 3) what topics you'd like to see tackled in 2023.

[Complete the Survey >](#)

New Resource!

Energy Policy vs. Energy Plan: Definitions, Commonalities and Differences

Establishing an energy policy and an energy-improvement plan is crucial to the successful integration of SEM into core business priorities and processes. However, despite the importance of energy policies and energy plans, the definitions of these respective terms are not uniformly agreed upon across all SEM practitioners. To help guide consistency and cohesion within the SEM community, this document defines the two discrete activities while outlining their differences and the ways they relate to and support one another.

ENERGY POLICY	ENERGY PLAN
A written statement of an organization's aims and priorities for energy use and management that guides and governs SEM efforts.	A document that operationalizes the energy policy by providing a roadmap detailing how the organization will improve energy performance to achieve goals.
COMMONALITIES	
Both help integrate SEM into core business priorities and processes.	
Both must be customized to cohere with a company's culture, practices and needs.	
Both support continuous improvement and improved long-term outcomes.	
In general terms, an energy policy details the "why" of energy improvement, while an energy plan details the "how."	
ENERGY POLICY	ENERGY PLAN
DIFFERENCES	
Operationalizes SEM activities.	Governs and guides SEM activities.
Fulfills CEE's SEM Minimum Element 2: Planning and Implementation.	Fulfills Consortium for Energy Efficiency's (CEE) SEM Minimum Element 1: Commitment.
Develops strategies and plans over time actions to meet those objectives.	Establishes long-range objectives and goals.
Details the ways in which the SEM will be implemented by the energy champion and energy team.	Assigns accountability and allocates human resources for the SEM effort.
Emphasizes the knowledge and capabilities of the energy champion and energy team, who will develop and implement the energy plan on an ongoing basis.	Secures the support of senior management, who will facilitate, endorse and own the energy policy.

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New Course!

How to Create an Energy Plan

Energy plans are written documents that detail short- and long-term energy reduction goals and the planned strategies and tactics to achieve them. These critical documents do nothing less than provide integrated approaches to all aspects of managing energy usage in an organization. This course explores the anatomy of an energy plan and provides the information and tools—including a ready-to-use template and a sample energy plan—you need to create one.

[View Now >](#)

2022 Fall Workshop Recap

Thank you so much to all of the participants, funders and volunteers who made the 2022 NW SEM Collaborative Fall Workshop an inspiring, engaging and truly collaborative event. Over 80 SEM professionals met in-person for a full day of learning, brainstorming and sharing.

Click below for a complete recap, including the update and [business plan](#) detailing early steps towards the exciting future alignment with the North American SEM Collaborative.

And save the date for the 2023 NW SEM Fall Workshop: October 19, 2023!

[Read the 2022 Event Recap >](#)

Working Group Spotlight: Beyond the E

The Beyond the E Working Group focuses on enhancing the indirect, long-term benefits of SEM. With categories including customer service and engagement strategies, program design innovation and non-energy resource conversation, Beyond the E designates themes for individual working sessions throughout the year, in addition to deciding on one overarching theme for the full group to focus on for the year. In 2023, Beyond the E will look at the benefits and opportunities for integrating Lean and DEI frameworks into SEM.

In 2022, the group focused on workforce development for employees of participating SEM companies. All year long, the Beyond the E team strategized approaches to supporting the continuing education of employees, including by:

- Offering SEM workshops and trainings
- Utilizing third-party organizations
- Leveraging SEM curriculum to incorporate CEUs/PDHS

Community-Sourced Training Library

The Beyond the E Working Group is proud to offer a new, community-sourced external training resource library. Use this growing list to keep an eye on a wide variety of SEM trainings for all levels of SEM experience and knowledge.

[View Trainings >](#)

Conduit's SEM Content Now Available

As of September, the Northwest Energy Efficiency Alliance (NEEA) and Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) have sunset Conduit (formerly located at [conduitnw.org](#))—a website portal dedicated to helping energy-efficiency cohorts engage and collaborate. To make sure the SEMHub community doesn't lose access to the numerous resources developed across several Working Groups over the years, we've set-up a resource library on SEMHub.com dedicated to housing these materials previously stored on Conduit. To access this library, visit [SEMHub.com/collaborative-resources](#), or contact info@semhub.com to contribute additional historical SEM community documents.

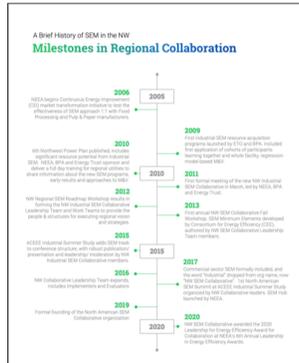
[View the Conduit Archive Library >](#)

New Resource!

More than 15 Years of Northwest SEM Leadership

Across more than a decade of regional collaboration and active practice, the Northwest SEM community has led the nation in standardizing and streamlining SEM best practices. To learn more about the Northwest's track record at the forefront of SEM, check out [The Northwest Roots of Strategic Energy Management](#), a new document detailing the contributions and milestones that have helped the Northwest lead the way in SEM innovation.

[Download Now >](#)



New SEMHub Resources

Check out what's new at SEMHub.com:

- [SEM as a Pathway to Decarbonization](#)
- [SEM: A History of the Future](#)
- [Updated Collection: SEM 101](#)
- [Energy Management Plan Template](#)

[View All Resources >](#)

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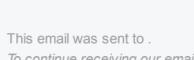
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