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Level I energy assessments begin at Rock Island Arsenal, Fort Polk

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To ensure the Army provides safe, secure, reliable environmentally compliant and cost-effective energy and water services to Soldiers, Families, Civilians and contractors on Army installations, the Army Energy Strategy for Installations and the Army Energy and Water Campaign Plan for Installations were developed. These formed the foundation for the future direction and resource requirements for effective energy and water management for the Army.

In FY06, the Installation Management Command initiated and funded the Energy Engineering Analysis Program.

A critical part of this initiative consists of energy optimization assessments conducted at selected U.S. Army installations in the U.S. and outside the continental U.S. These assessments identify and analyze energy inefficiencies and waste which can initiate energy related projects, and identify applicable funding and execution reduction requirements mandated by Executive Order 13123 and EPACT 2005.

The EEAP team with the U.S. Army Engineering and Support Center, Huntsville, serves as program manager and recently performed a Level I energy assessment and installation-wide Facility Energy Decision Screening analyses at Rock Island Arsenal, Ill., and Fort Polk, La. In addition they contribute expertise to the program as the Army's leader in life cycle cost analysis and Energy Savings Performance Contracts contracting.

They were joined at both installations by subject matter experts, researchers and expert consultants from the U.S. Army Engineer Research and Development Center, Construction Engineering Research Laboratory, and the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory with participation from the Oak Ridge National Laboratory and a number of private sector companies.

"The scope of the Level I assessment included central energy plants and associated steam distribution systems providing heat to buildings, representative administrative buildings, warehouses and small repair shops and an analysis of their building envelopes, ventilation air systems and lighting," said Tammie Learned, program manager, EEAP, Installation Support and Programs Management Directorate. "For the first time, SMEs' evaluations were combined with the FEDS modeling tools."

For Rock Island alone, there were 259 different energy conservation measures, divided up into eight ECM packages, which addressed a central energy plant; steam distribution system; building envelopes; heating, ventilating and air conditioning; potable water; and lighting, Learned said.

A major consideration of which combination to implement depends upon their affect on the size of a new power plant required in the very near future.

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