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The importance of energy and water management planning

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Studies being conducted throughout the Defense Department are helping leaders and staff measure, define and implement current and future energy and water strategies.

The Installation Management Command-directed Comprehensive Energy and Water Management Plan has completed more than 20 of the 45 funded studies at various Army installations touching all IMCOM regions.

The CEWMP study documents the progress based on a pre-determined baseline, and paints a picture for all to see while giving guidance in the form of strategic-level recommendations and action plans on how to reach the mandated goals set forth by Congress. The CEWMP study provides important data and analyzes the overall “health” of each system and gives an installation-wide systems overview that allows the energy managers and engineers to recognize trends that will help prioritize projects that will ultimately lead to meeting the energy and water reduction goals.

Updates to the plan

The information and data that is gathered is constantly evolving and changing. These changes can occur in the form of personnel/soldier staffing changes, power and water systems changes, overall square footage increases and decreases, etc., and with these changes comes fluctuations in the data and the need for plan updates. With the CEWMP being a new study, the updates have yet to occur, but it is intended that the CEWMP will be updated in line with the installation’s Real Property Master Plan updates.

Once the CEWMP is complete and the project action plans are developed, it becomes a tool for the Energy Engineering Analysis Program where the Capital Investment Strategy is created. The EEAP team can use the action plans developed in the CEWMP to take the plans from a strategic level down to a more “building/system specific” level and create a basis for the DD Form 1391. Once the CIS is created, both the CIS and the CEWMP are incorporated into the installation’s RPMP as an appendix to the RPMP’s CIS component. The installation’s RPMP is updated every five years and as a component of the RPMP, the CEWMP and CIS would be updated as well and new goals would then be set to move toward a strategy for the installation to achieve its energy and water management goals.

Dr. Dorothy Robyn, Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for energy management at military installations, testified before the House Armed Services Committee, Subcommittee on Readiness, Feb. 24, 2010. In her testimony, she talked about why installation energy management matters, and what we are doing to improve it. She discussed the importance of two goals (long-term cost avoidance and mission assurance) and, further, two-related impediments: flawed incentives and lack of information. Lack of information, she stated, is (another) impediment to improved

installation energy management. “The Department currently lacks an enterprise-wide energy information management system that can provide the appropriate information on energy consumption at various levels of aggregation including the individual building, the installation, the geographic region and the military department. This hampers DoD’s ability to monitor, measure, manage and maintain energy systems at their optimal performance levels; collect renewable energy generation and performance data; and compare performance across facilities and across military departments.”

The Comprehensive Energy and Management Plan is not intended to lay on a shelf. Three energy conservation projects identified in the Energy Engineering Analysis Program survey, for which funding is strategized in the Capital Investment Strategy, if appropriate, become DD Forms 1391 for Energy Conservation Investment Program submissions. Additional funding types/mechanisms are utilized to execute those projects: military construction, operation and maintenance, and third party financing, such as Energy Savings Performance Contracts, Utilities Energy Service Contracts, Enhanced Use Lease, and Power Purchase Agreements.

The Comprehensive Energy and Water Management Plans, Energy Engineering Analysis Program and the Capital Investment Strategy, which become appendices to the installation’s Real Property Master Plan, provide the key information the installation needs to properly plan and execute. Information gathered across installations can fill the gap so enterprise-wide initiatives can be implemented based on solid projects with detailed measurement and verification.

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Acronyms and Abbreviations

CEWMP	Comprehensive Energy and Water Management Plan
CIS	Capital Investment Strategy
DoD	Department of Defense
EEAP	Energy Engineering Analysis Program
IMCOM	Installation Management Command
RPMP	Real Property Master Plan