DEP Gets Some Gr$$n for Going Green

PlaNYC set the ambitious goal of reducing carbon emissions from municipal facilities by 30 percent by 2017 and, to date, the City has achieved a 12 percent reduction in emissions compared to the Fiscal Year 2006 baseline. To help close the gap by 2017, the Department of Citywide Administrative Services (DCAS) created the Accelerated Conservation and Efficiency (ACE) program, which funds capital projects that will significantly reduce energy use and emissions, can be completed by 2017, and have a cost-share component.

With a nearly half million dollar contribution from DCAS and the New York State Energy Research and Development Agency, DEP has completed energy audits at all in-city wastewater treatment plants and several upstate facilities. These audits helped to identify a number of energy conservation measures, some of which recently received $2.8 million in funding through the ACE Program. The projects include:

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Spotlight on Safety

Prevention through Design

Many businesses and government entities throughout America are “going green” by focusing on energy efficiency and more environmentally friendly construction and work practices. These emerging green industries have created new kinds of occupations and workers and, as a result, they face exposures to new hazards in the workplaces. One of the best ways to address exposure to some of these hazards is through planning, organization, and engineering. This process is known as Prevention through Design (PtD) and its goal is to design out or minimize hazards and risks to prevent and control occupational injuries, illnesses, and fatalities. The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) is leading a PtD initiative to promote this concept and to highlight its importance in all business decisions. In fact, a growing number of business leaders are recognizing PtD as a cost-effective means to enhance occupational safety and health.

Go to NIOSH - Prevention through Design, for more information.

At DEP, everyone is responsible for safety. If you or anyone on your team is concerned about your working conditions, it's okay to ask your supervisor or your bureau's EHS liaison how they can help. If you've still got questions, you can call the EHS Employee Concerns Hotline. It's DEP's responsibility to acknowledge and fix unsafe situations, procedures, and practices. With your help, we'll not only get the job done, we’ll make it safer for ourselves, our coworkers, our families, and our city.

CALL (800) 897-9677 OR SEND A MESSAGE THROUGH PIPELINE. HELP IS ON THE WAY.
For Fiscal Year 2013, DEP spent close to $88 million on 2.9 trillion British Thermal Units of electricity, natural gas, and steam. As compared to Fiscal Year 2012, energy cost increased by 4.4 percent and energy consumption increased by 4.5 percent.