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Title: Holistic SEM Practices: Power to the People!

Abstract: According to the Consortium for Energy Efficiency (CEE), Strategic Energy Management (SEM) is defined as "a holistic approach" that enables "management and staff to impact energy consumption through behavioral and operational change" in order to "continuously improve energy performance . . . over the long term". The proposed presentation will reflect on the questions, as it relates to SEM: What does it mean to take a holistic approach? What are implications regarding organizational behaviors? Might it inspire pathways to scale up the long-term impact of existing energy efficiency programs? From a whole systems perspective, the complex interactions between our behaviors and values, our technical tools, how we organize ourselves, and what we agree to do constitute our sociotechnical systems. A "holistic approach" to SEM means attention to - and working within - the breadth of the sociotechnical systems that drive energy efficiency at commercial and industrial sites. By this definition, a successful implementation of SEM would involve initiatives that lead to increased:

- Employee Engagement: at all levels
- Collaboration: leading to continuous energy saving opportunities
- Operational Efficiency: leading to faster completion of energy projects
- Organizational Agility: leading to faster adoption of energy management best practices
- Persistence of Energy Savings: by baking SEM into the operational systems and culture of the organization

By utilizing existing, proven, and measurable organizational and operational whole systems models this presentation will highlight: â€¢ Which sociotechnical systems SEM interacts with at industrial sites

- How existing SEM programs are measuring their impact on these systems
- How these systems impact energy savings over the long term
- Whole systems opportunities for evolving SEM program designs