

## If you don't know how you use it, how can you manage it?

Energy is a significant cost for many New Zealand businesses, ranking alongside overheads such as rates, insurance and rentals. The difference with energy costs is that, with good management and knowledgeable advice, they can be controlled and often reduced. An energy or building design audit grant from EECA can help your business identify energy savings opportunities.

Energy audits are a crucial part of the energy management process. They determine how efficiently energy is being used, identify energy and cost saving opportunities and highlight potential improvements in comfort and productivity. They will also assess any potential electricity savings through fuel switching, co-generation and demand-side response opportunities.

Options for improvements are costed so you can weigh the cost of improvements against future energy cost reductions, and prioritise the options in order of cost and benefit.

Energy audits on average have identified savings of 10% of the energy bill – and in some instances up to 40%.

### How much is available

**Detailed Scoping Study:** If your annual energy spend is more than \$1 million, you can apply for up to 100% of the cost of the Scoping Study up to a maximum grant of \$10,000. This is to determine whether a site or process would benefit from a detailed energy audit.

**Energy Audit or Design Audit:** You can apply for up to 50% of the cost of the audit up to a maximum grant of \$50,000 (less the cost of any previous detailed scoping study grant).

Please note that regardless of the audit cost, grants are limited to 3% of your annual energy bill. Only one Audit grant will be given to any one organisation every three years.

**Fleet Audit:** If you have a vehicle fleet of more than 50 vehicles you can apply for up to 50% of the cost of the audit up to a maximum grant of \$10,000.

### Eligibility

Any public or private organisation can apply for a grant, however Negotiated Greenhouse Agreement (NGA) signatories are not eligible.

To apply for a grant the following conditions must be met:

**Energy Audits:** minimum annual energy spend of \$100,000

**Design Audits:** building area minimum 1000m<sup>2</sup>

Audits must be a comprehensive energy audit of a facility or part of a facility, of a particular process or technology.

# Applying for a grant

- 1 . Contact your EECA account manager or email [audits@emprove.org.nz](mailto:audits@emprove.org.nz)
- 2 . Obtain a quote from a suitably qualified energy auditor (obtain at least two quotes if the audit is likely to cost over \$20,000).
- 3 . Submit a completed application form along with the quote from your preferred auditor.  
If your application is approved, EECA will issue a contract committing EECA to paying the grant funding.
4. Instruct the auditor to conduct the audit and complete the database information sheet. When completed, send a copy of the audit report and database information sheet to EECA.
5. Prepare and submit an action plan to EECA detailing how and when the items identified in the audit will be actioned.
6. When the action plan is received and the audit reviewed, EECA will reimburse you the grant amount agreed in the contract.

## Quality assurance

To ensure you receive a quality audit the following conditions must be met:

### Scoping Study

The scoping study must meet the standards of a Level 1 audit as defined in the Australian/New Zealand Standard *AS/NZS 3598:2000: Energy Audits*. In addition, the detailed scoping study must include a site visit, provide sufficient information to determine whether a full audit is recommended and identify the potential for demand response and co-generation opportunities.

### Energy Audit

Energy audits must be equivalent to Level 2 (for an audit of the whole facility) or Level 3 (for an audit of particular parts of a facility, process or technology) audits and in accordance with *AS/NZS 3598:2000: Energy Audits*. They are also required to examine demand response and co-generation opportunities. To qualify for a grant, the audit must be a comprehensive energy audit of a business site, or significant energy using part of a site.

Auditors must be accredited by the Energy Management Association of New Zealand (EMANZ) or a similar recognised body. EECA can put you in touch with accredited energy auditors, or visit [www.emprove.org.nz](http://www.emprove.org.nz) select 'find an expert' from the menu to search for accredited energy auditors in the Energy Services Directory.

Note: Auditors not yet accredited may be used if they are submitting the audit as a step towards accreditation. The EMA or appropriate body must review the audit to ensure it meets the standard required.

### Further information

If you wish to know more about this scheme please contact your Emprove Account Manager, phone 0800 EMPROVE (367768), email [audits@emprove.org.nz](mailto:audits@emprove.org.nz), or visit our website [www.emprove.org.nz](http://www.emprove.org.nz).