

The Midwest Energy Efficiency Alliance (MEEA), in partnership with five other Regional Energy Efficiency Organizations, created a national network of Regional Navigators to provide additional technical assistance and guidance to the prize winners throughout all phases of the Buildings Upgrade Prize.

Why MEEA?

MEEA is your partner and primary contact, guiding your team through the Buildings UP application process and ensuring you have access to the resources you need. MEEA is a collaborative network promoting energy efficiency to optimize energy generation, reduce consumption, create jobs and decrease carbon emissions in all Midwest communities.

We work with our members - energy service companies, state and local governments, utilities, implementers, community-based organizations, research organizations, academic institutions and manufacturers - as well as elected officials, regulators and community partners to advance energy efficiency across the region.

MEEA not only offers deep expertise in topic areas like energy efficiency policy, building technologies, innovative program design and equity considerations, but also functions like strategic and program planning, education and training and research on current issues and trends.

MEEA Can Support Your Work Through:

Prize Administration Support

- Navigate through the Buildings UP Prize requirements and rules documents, including facilitating the onboarding process for new team members to the Prize network and orienting them to resources.
- Assist in crafting and submitting Buildings UP Technical Assistance (TA) requests based on team needs and preferences.
- Participate in TA Provider (TAP) scoping calls and review proposed scopes of work for applicability.
- Review and analyze TA deliverables from TAPs, helping to process technical information and identify other recommendations or questions, particularly for high-level deliverables.
- Conduct research on specific topic areas as requested, including Buildings UP rules and prize structure, as well as Buildings UP resources.

Outreach & Education Efforts

- Prepare outreach and educational materials for homeowners, building owners and operators, and community-based organizations about energy efficiency programs and other resources to reduce building energy usage and costs.
- Provide in-depth insights into energy efficiency policies and building energy codes for regulators, policymakers, and staff analysts to better understand industry nuances and implications.
- Host topic-specific webinars to expand understanding of the industry landscape.
- Facilitate connections with colleagues, industry partners and other Buildings UP teams in the network to help team initiatives.

Staff Administration & Augmentation

- Provide feedback on job descriptions and interview questions, adhering to Human Resources best practices.
- Share available job postings on MEEA's website and within our members and our broader network.
- Provide Buildings UP onboarding trainings for new team members.

Program Planning & Design

- Consult on program design to meet state goals and align with existing programs based on MEEA's vast knowledge of industry best practices.
- Provide input on state and local energy resilience, energy efficiency plans and integrated resource plans.
- Advise on community benefits plans, market transformation plans, contractor networks, training plans, policy gap analysis and planning.
- Identify relevant municipal, state, federal and private funding opportunities and provide grant writing support.
- Advise on relevant state energy efficiency legislative and regulatory requirements.
- Identify important local stakeholders and organizations for collaboration and support of your Buildings UP initiative.

Workforce Development Support

- Industrial: Create a network of resources and curriculum to support adoption of strategic energy management and smart manufacturing strategies to reduce energy consumption in the industrial sector.
- Large Energy Users: Building Operator Certification training equips facilities personnel with the knowledge and skills to make commercial, institutional and multifamily buildings more energy efficient. Fundamentals of Energy Efficient Building Operations curriculum aims to educate entry-level staff and provide career pathways to replace retiring workers.
- Educate home builders, general contractors, code officials, architects, engineers and other industry professionals with a full understanding of energy code requirements and advanced policies.
- Real Estate Professionals: Educate and train real estate agents and appraisers on high performing homes so they can properly recognize and assign value to energy efficiency during real estate transactions.
- Upskilling existing workers and preparing new workers: energy code and building science curriculum for new entrants to the industry and existing workers.
- Identify resources for contractors installing and servicing heat pumps.
- General support on workforce development program design and understanding existing energy efficiency workforce programs.

Energy Efficiency and Efficient Electrification Research

- Share technical information/data/research on building upgrades, tailored by specific building types, climate zones and technology selections.
- Provide technical analyses regarding proposed energy efficiency policies.
- Support heat pump validation studies and develop market transformation strategies to accelerate adoption.
- Analyze and disseminate impacts of leading building energy codes and stretch codes that help meet clean energy goals at the state and municipal levels.

**The [Midwest Energy Efficiency Alliance](#) is the trusted source on energy efficiency.
Let us help you maximize the impact of these resources for your team.**