

# Insights from a PSE business customer

### Clean Buildings Accelerator

Washington state lawmakers passed the Clean Buildings Law (HB1257, 2019) to begin to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from commercial buildings greater than 50,000 square feet. To help our business customers who must comply, we partnered with Stillwater Energy to create the Clean Buildings Accelerator. The Accelerator is a no-cost program that meets you where you're at with your buildings and energy usage, and then teaches you how to comply and go beyond.

#### HERE'S A CHANCE TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE PROGRAM FROM ONE OF OUR ACCELERATOR PARTICIPANTS.

#### **University of Washington Bothell**

UW Bothell serves 6,000 students and more than 350 faculty members. It shares a campus with Cascadia College that includes eight buildings required to comply with the Clean Buildings Law. The following insights are from Anthony Guerrero, associate vice chancellor for facilities and campus operations, and Courtne Russell, planning and systems manager for facilities and campus operations, with UW Bothell.

#### WHY DID YOU JOIN THE ACCELERATOR?

"We knew we had to comply with Clean Buildings, and it was great that PSE was offering assistance. Having PSE and Stillwater Energy as mentors was a valuable opportunity."

#### HOW HAS THE ACCELERATOR HELPED YOU?

"We feel much more confident regarding Clean Buildings after participating in the Accelerator. The program was very helpful in detailing all the components of compliance, providing task lists and examples for each component, and assisting with troubleshooting when we ran into issues. Though we have more work to do to get into compliance, our team is much better equipped because of the Accelerator."

## WHAT LARGER CHANGES DID THE ACCELERATOR HELP YOU MAKE?

"We've updated our ENERGY STAR® Portfolio Manager® and MyData/ EnergyCAP® portfolios. We've also started a new project to bring energy dashboards back to campus. These energy dashboards are a key factor in bolstering community engagement with our energy-management efforts. They will also provide the opportunity for collaboration between our department and faculty and students."

# ANY ADVICE FOR OTHER BUSINESSES THAT HAVE TO COMPLY WITH THE LAW?

"We've enrolled in PSE's Commercial Strategic Energy Management (CSEM) program to help us continue our energy reduction. CSEM helps fund a fellow from the Climate Corps Fellowship program, and one of our fellow's key tasks is to help us reach full Clean Buildings compliance."



The Accelerator emphasizes the significance of regularly replacing HVAC filters to prevent pollutant overload and improve energy performance.



UW Bothell learned the importance of regular energy audits in the Accelerator. They include checking the temperature of circuit breaker panels, which helps detect deficiencies that may increase energy usage and potentially disrupt service.

### Ready to begin?

Whether you're ready to enroll in the Accelerator or you're looking for more information, use the QR code to get started. You can also email <u>cleanbuildings@stillwaterenergy.com</u>.



