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Energy management and energy savings — Guidance for net zero energy in operations using an ISO 50001 energy management system

National foreword

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Ch. de Blandonnet 8 • CP 401
CH-1214 Vernier, Geneva, Switzerland
Tel. +41 22 749 01 11
Fax +41 22 749 09 47
copyright@iso.org
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Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) is a worldwide federation of national standards bodies (ISO member bodies). The work of preparing International Standards is normally carried out through ISO technical committees. Each member body interested in a subject for which a technical committee has been established has the right to be represented on that committee. International organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO, also take part in the work. ISO collaborates closely with the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) on all matters of electrotechnical standardization.

The procedures used to develop this document and those intended for its further maintenance are described in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1. In particular, the different approval criteria needed for the different types of ISO documents should be noted. This document was drafted in accordance with the editorial rules of the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2 (see www.iso.org/directives).

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For an explanation of the voluntary nature of standards, the meaning of ISO specific terms and expressions related to conformity assessment, as well as information about ISO's adherence to the World Trade Organization (WTO) principles in the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT), see www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html.

This document was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 301, *Energy management and energy savings*.

Any feedback or questions on this document should be directed to the user's national standards body. A complete listing of these bodies can be found at www.iso.org/members.html.

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Introduction

0.1 General

This document shows how an organization that manages its energy performance can use that process to achieve net zero energy (NZE). It explains what is meant by NZE and how an energy management system (EnMS) in accordance with ISO 50001:2018 can be implemented to achieve, maintain and improve NZE. It also considers the integration of renewable energy and issues around planning for NZE in new and retrofitted facilities which is beyond the scope of ISO 50001. In addition, it is designed to complement organizational action to achieve net zero carbon (NZC).

This document introduces several new concepts to the determination of whether a facility meets the criteria it recommends for showing that it meets NZE or NZC goals. Many jurisdictions use the two terms interchangeably, and others promote one goal over the other as discrete choices. This document attempts to reconcile these definitions. It distinguishes between several different scopes and boundaries for these different net zero goals and their targets, which are increasingly effective at reducing energy and greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, and correspondingly more difficult to achieve. It suggests that an EnMS be structured to allow continual improvement from lower targets to higher ones.

A number of countries around the world have pledged to achieve a net zero goal, and many more have committed to significant energy savings and carbon reductions in their societies.[17] Meeting these commitments over the coming decades requires accelerated improvements in energy management.

Many organizations are undertaking specific actions to reduce their carbon emissions by better management of energy, including targeting NZE. These actions may include:

— measuring, managing and minimizing energy use to achieve NZE through operations;

— designing and constructing new buildings or other facilities to meet a target of NZE;

— retrofitting existing buildings to improve their performance toward or beyond NZE;

— integration of renewable energy, e.g. photovoltaics (PVs), solar water heating, geothermal energy, on-site wind turbines;

— coordinating robust energy management with other sustainability initiatives, to achieve or surpass NZC.

This document shows how an EnMS can include objectives such as specified levels of NZE and NZC. The EnMS conforms to ISO 50001:2018. This document recommends establishing specific, quantifiable targets for energy consumption that can serve as a pathway to NZE. Use of this document should enable closer harmonization of claims of NZE within and between organizations, and across regions and nations.

By following the standardized approach provided, the organization can take advantage of common resources (e.g. software) to produce reliable and documentable processes and results, and of the basic structure this document provides in developing its own management system.

This document provides flexibility for organizations to determine their own scope, boundaries and calculation methodology for calculating net energy consumption, and for setting a pathway towards NZE. It does not discuss how to measure non-energy-related GHG impacts; for these, see ISO 14064-2:2019 and ISO 14067:2018.

This document recognizes that energy targets and calculation methods are chosen by the organization to be specific to its situation and can be determined outside the organization (e.g. by governments or consequent upon a GHG-calculation methodology). For situations when the measurement and calculations are developed by the organization itself, this document includes a high-level set of recommendations based on global best practice.

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0.2 NZE goals are being increasingly adopted

NZE is a key indicator for an organization wishing to demonstrate leadership in energy management and sustainable development. It is applicable for buildings, industries and other sectors. It may also be measured at the organizational, district or city level. The buildings sector has been the first to accept NZE concepts widely, but there are also NZE industrial facilities. To achieve NZE goals, buildings can use mandatory NZE codes. Meeting challenging targets requires industry to consider residual energy use.[14]

The global market for NZE buildings and industries is exhibiting rapid compound annual growth, spurred on in part by legislation or pledges at the local, national or supranational level (see, for example, EU Directive 2018/844[13]).

However, if these ambitious targets are to be met, a wide range of users including, but not limited to, energy service providers, building occupants, industrial managers, energy efficiency experts and government agencies require a common understanding of NZE and the use of standardized processes (such as those provided by this document) for targeting, measuring and maintaining it.

NOTE "Net zero building" is abbreviated as either "NZE building" or "NZC building".

This document aims to meet these needs and uses the EnMS goal of continual improvement, as required by ISO 50001, to harmonize definitions and claims in the context of improving from one target to the next over time. It also allows facilities that find it impractical to reach NZE in the short term to show how close they come to achieving it, and to demonstrate how they choose to approach NZE over time.

0.3 Importance of an energy management system to achieve NZE

In a typical building's life cycle, the operation and maintenance (O&M) phase (as shown in Figure 1) is more than 80 % of the total life-cycle energy consumption of that building and plant.[15] Thus, good energy management is critical to the life-cycle energy consumption of a building. As energy management improves as recommended by this document, it is likely that net energy consumption during operation declines dramatically, while energy consumption in other parts of the life cycle stays constant or declines by a smaller percentage. Thus, the non-operational energy impacts over the life cycle become relatively more important. That is one reason why that this document addresses these effects along with operational energy consumption, particularly when the energy targets are intended to be met in future years when energy performance is improved, and renewable energy production is increased.

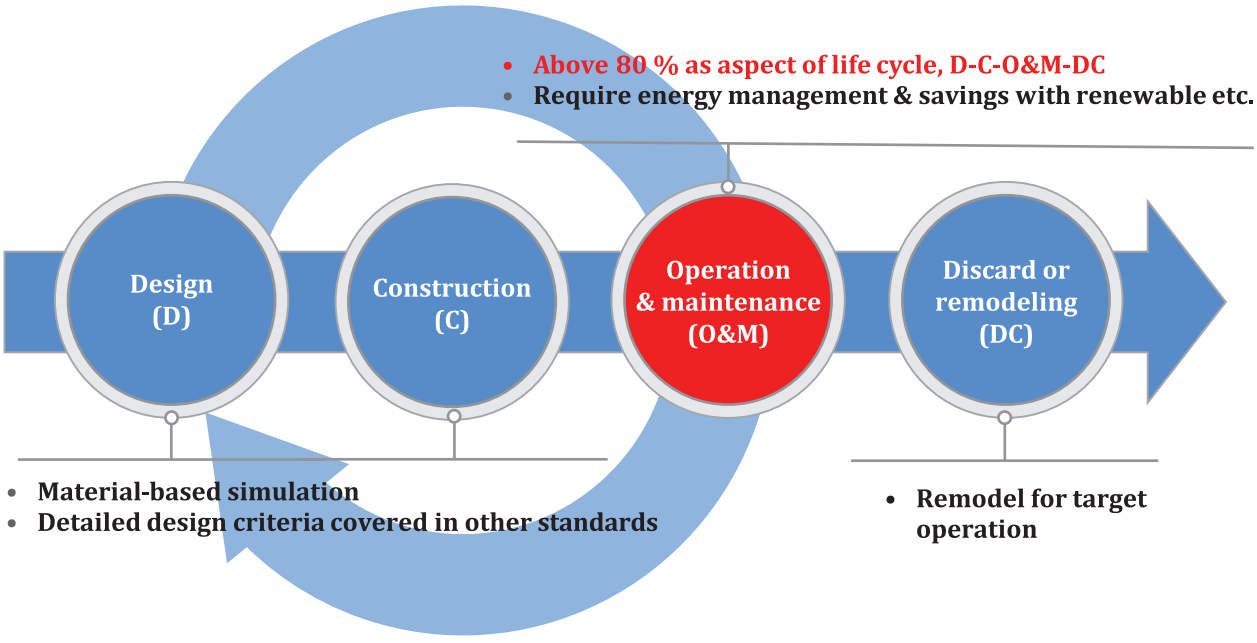


Figure 1 — Total life cycle energy use of an organization

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0.4 Contents of this document

Clause 4 provides a high-level introduction to the goals and processes of meeting different defined NZE targets, which are linked to each other by the process of continual improvement as part of an EnMS. It discusses how renewable energy should be treated in NZE demonstrations. It looks at how to select the most appropriate energy performance indicators (EnPIs) within an EnMS that can then be used to monitor progress towards achieving, maintaining and reaching higher levels of NZE (including NZC) over future years. The clause also considers how to develop a data collection plan, and ways of accounting for year-to-year variability, especially where renewable energy generation varies with weather conditions. The explanations of the rationales for the recommendation for NZE are provided in Annex B.

The additional NZE targets, which go beyond many existing definitions of NZE, are variants on the principle of NZC. In this document, “carbon” is used in a variety of terms (e.g. carbon footprint, carbon neutral) as carbon dioxide (CO_2) to represent GHG emissions and CO_2 equivalent, which is a unit of measurement for global warming effect. This document develops these recommendations on the effective O&M with renewable energy and how it is integrated into an EnMS. It highlights demand response as a way of matching energy consumption with available renewable energy in Clauses 5 and 6.

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INTERNATIONAL STANDARD **ISO/PAS 50010:2023**

Energy management and energy savings — Guidance for net zero energy in operations using an ISO 50001 energy management system

1 Scope

This document gives guidance on the use of an energy management system (EnMS) in accordance with ISO 50001:2018 to achieve net zero energy (NZE), and supports the achievement of net zero carbon (NZC) and other sustainability goals. It describes how to establish an enhanced EnMS designed to achieve:

a) improvement of operational and maintenance practices based on NZE principles;

b) integration of renewable energy into operations and maintenance;

c) planning for facilities, systems, equipment or processes to implement NZE and NZC.

This document does not apply to technologies, design or construction. The technical specification of passive, active or renewable energy for NZE or NZC is also not included because of different regional conditions by countries.

2 Normative references

The following documents are referred to in the text in such a way that some or all of their content constitutes requirements of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

ISO 50001:2018, *Energy management systems — Requirements with guidance for use*

3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the terms and definitions given in ISO 50001:2018 and the following apply.

ISO and IEC maintain terminology databases for use in standardization at the following addresses:

— ISO Online browsing platform: available at https://www.iso.org/obp

— IEC Electropedia: available at https://www.electropedia.org/

3.1 Terms related to net zero

3.1.1
net zero
state in which a quantity of a commodity with one attribute is balanced by the same quantity of the commodity with a different attribute

Note 1 to entry: The commodity can be physical (e.g. water), a waste, a by-product (e.g. greenhouse gas emissions) or a form of energy.

Note 2 to entry: Net zero can be applied within specified *net zero energy target boundaries* (3.1.7) over a defined period of time.

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