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Energy Auditing Need For Quality Control System

It is imperative on the part of the Bureau of Energy Efficiency, in the stage of infancy itself, to formulate a well planned Quality Control System for the Energy Auditing, Reporting, Implementing and Reviewing functions.

As with any scientific process of evaluation, it is essential to have a quality control and management system for Energy Audits also, in order to ensure that the real objective of achieving energy efficiency is not over-ridden due to time, cost and mandatory constraints. Energy audit cannot be a meaningless mandatory exercise sacrificing the real purpose of improving energy efficiency. Well established quality systems would ensure that the energy audits are undertaken by the energy auditing firms with integrity of objective. Presence of quality energy auditing systems will also motivate the designated customers to implement the recommendations readily instead of resorting to mere procedures and paper works.

Implementation of Quality Control System for Energy Audits:

1.The apex body, viz, the Bureau of Energy Efficiency should formulate detailed procedures for the energy auditing, reporting, implementing and Reviewing functions in the various industry domains with the help of academics, industry specialists, international energy audit firms of repute etc. for compliance by the energy auditors and designated customers.

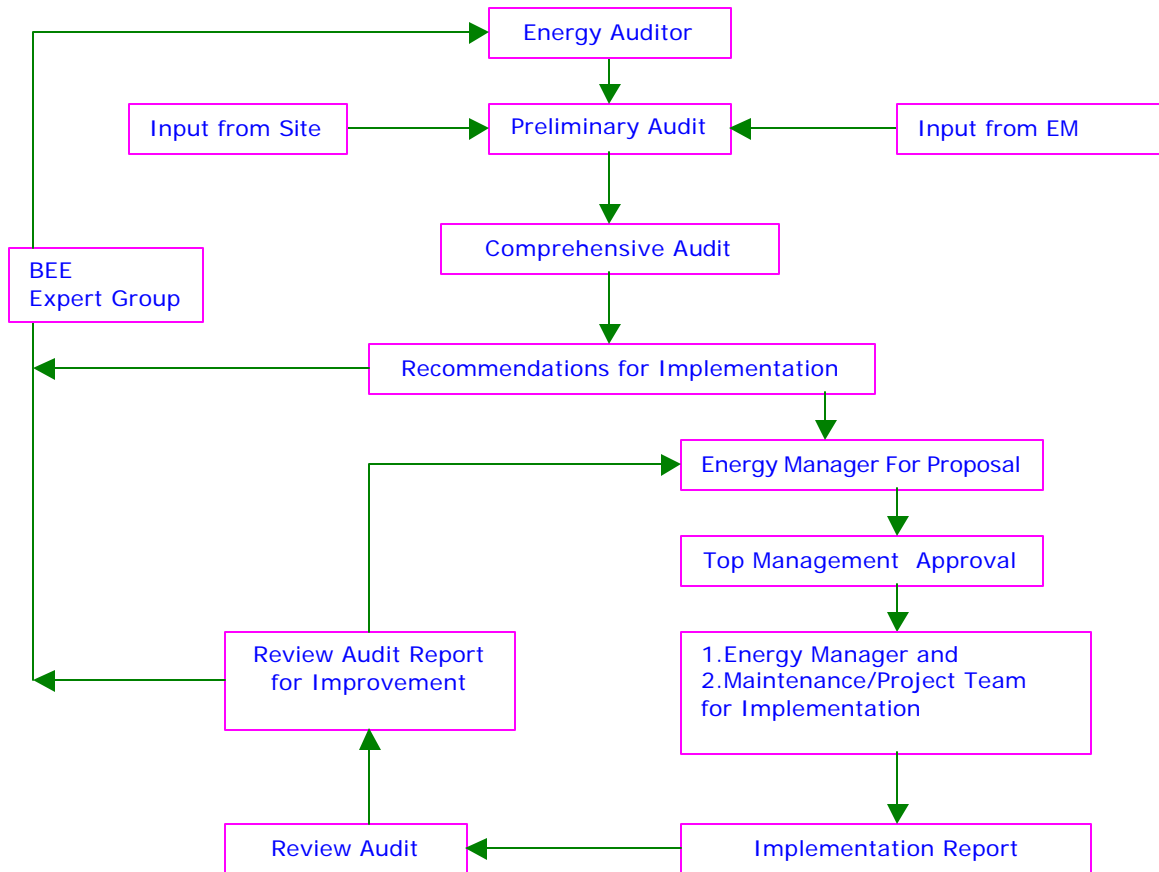
2.The Certified Energy Auditors should be re-evaluated every three/five years by a competent technical group on the latest trends, procedures, technologies in the field of energy and energy auditing systems to ensure that they are abreast of the current systems and to prevent the obsolescence of the Energy management knowledge base.

3.BEE should emphasise that the energy auditors maximise the use of information technology and be conversant with latest proven energy management, energy optimization and automation software applications.

4.In order to prevent undercutting on fees for energy auditing services by unscrupulous firms, BEE may penalise and cancel the certification upon conclusive proof of such ill conceived practices by such firms.

5.Cyclical Feedback Control Systems offer the best way to continually improve the quality of energy auditing processes. The following figure illustrates a simple

feedback control mechanism for the energy audit function. The implementation of recommendations should be reviewed by the energy auditors after an estimated period of the implementation schedule and the review report should be fed back to the energy manager of the customer firm for further improvements in energy efficiency. The recommendations and the review reports may be evaluated by an expert committee at BEE for improvement of the energy auditing process.



6. An annual rating system awarding the best energy auditing firms should be put in place for proactive motivation of the energy auditing practitioners. The firms should be evaluated on the basis of the good auditing practices followed, extent of practical energy and monetary savings achieved for the designated customers, extent of current energy saving technologies implemented and feedback from the designated customers.