

Mandatory Energy Audit

Frequently Asked Questions



Below, we have attempted to answer potential questions on mandatory energy audits. Should you have any further question or are in need of clarifications, please do not hesitate to send us an email on eemo@govmu.org. We would also be pleased to meet you at the EEMO should you require any meeting.

Note: In this the FAQ:

“Act” means the Energy Efficiency Act 2011. A copy may be seen by clicking [here](#);

“Enterprise” can mean an office building or any other type of building, or a factory;

“Level 2” means Level 2 according to ISO 50002;

“Level 3” means Level 3 according to ISO 50002;

“objects” means a site, building, equipment, system, process, transport system, service or such other thing that uses energy or affects the energy consumption of an energy consumer; and

“Regulations” means the Energy Efficiency (Energy Consumer and Energy Audit) Regulation 2017. A copy may be seen by clicking [here](#).

What is an energy audit?

When will mandatory energy audit be enforced?

What do you mean by ‘average annual energy consumption threshold’?

Does ‘energy’ mean electricity only?

The EEMO does not have the energy consumption data of my enterprise. How would the EEMO determine whether my enterprise should be subjected to mandatory energy audit?

The average annual energy consumption of my enterprise is 87 toe. I will, therefore, not be concerned with mandatory energy audit. Is this correct?

Is an energy audit limited to electricity use only?

How will I know that I have to conduct an energy audit of my enterprise?

Will the EEMO impose the level of energy audit to be carried out?

Can an enterprise conduct a Level 3 energy audit only?

Should an energy audit be conducted for the whole enterprise or for a specific section?

A company operates at more than one site. Will the notification issued by the EEMO concern all the sites or one specific site only?

How much time will the EEMO give to an enterprise to conduct an energy audit and to submit the energy audit report?

Will the EEMO consider granting an extension for the submission of an energy audit report?

Who can carry out the mandatory energy audit?

Who is a certified energy auditor?

Will the EEMO accept an energy audit report prepared by a certified Energy Manager?

What is the requirement for an energy auditor to be registered with the EEMO? Does the energy auditor need to have some minimum academic qualifications?

What do you mean by accredited Certification Body?

Are there accredited Certification Bodies in Mauritius?

Are there certified energy auditors in Mauritius?

Are there energy audit firms in Mauritius?

Is it expected of an energy auditor to have the skills to carry out the energy audit of a whole enterprise?

Should all the team members carrying out an energy audit be certified energy auditors?

Who will decide how much data an energy auditor needs to collect for the purpose of an energy audit?

One of my employees is a certified energy auditor and is registered with the EEMO. Can he carry out the energy audit of my enterprise?

Will the EEMO accept an energy audit report signed by someone who is not a certified energy auditor?

Will the EEMO accept an energy audit report signed by someone who is a certified energy auditor but who is not registered with it?

An energy auditor, who is not registered with the EEMO, carried out an energy audit at our enterprise. What should we do for the EEMO to accept the energy audit report?

Will the EEMO accept energy audit reports which are more than five years old?

Group X has two companies, Company A and Company B. Company A has a certified energy auditor who is registered with the EEMO. Company A has been directed by the EEMO to have an energy audit conducted. Can the energy auditor of Company A conduct the energy audit?

Group X has two companies, A and B. Company A has a certified energy auditor who is registered with the EEMO. Company B has been directed by the EEMO to have an energy audit conducted. Can the energy auditor of Company A conduct the energy audit?

In what form should an energy audit report be submitted to the EEMO?

The energy audit report will contain data and information pertaining to our enterprise. Will these be treated as confidential?

Can the EEMO release an energy audit report or part of it to any other party?

Will the EEMO review energy audit reports submitted to it?

Will the examination of the technical quality of an energy audit report include an inspection by the EEMO at the enterprise?

Can I prevent an enforcement officer from carrying out an inspection at my enterprise?

What will happen if the EEMO is not satisfied with the technical quality of an energy audit report? Would the enterprise have committed an offence under the Act or Regulations?

Will the EEMO inform us why it is not satisfied with the technical quality of an energy audit report?

What if the EEMO is not satisfied with the technical quality of the revised energy audit report? Would the enterprise have committed an offence under the Act or Regulations?

What if the EEMO is not satisfied with the technical quality of the further revised energy audit report? Would the enterprise have committed an offence under the Act or Regulations?

A Level 2 energy audit has been conducted at my enterprise. The energy audit report contains a set of recommendations for improving the energy performance of the enterprise. Will this be sufficient for the EEMO?

Can the EEMO require an enterprise to amend the plan for implementation of the recommendations of an energy audit report?

There is a list of recommendations in an energy audit report. Who will follow-up whether the recommendations have been implemented?

Will the EEMO decide by itself the energy audit recommendation(s) to be implemented by the enterprise?

Can the EEMO direct an enterprise to be ISO 50001 certified?

Our enterprise is ISO 50001 certified. Are we exempted from the requirements of the Act for mandatory energy audit?

Is there any benchmark on energy consumption by enterprises?

Does an energy audit assess if there is a procedure to manage energy in an enterprise?

Should an energy audit cover water consumption?

If an enterprise commits an offence under the Act, will it be the EEMO that will fine the enterprise?

What is an energy audit?

An energy audit is a detailed assessment of how an enterprise may improve its energy performance through upgrading its equipment and systems. This also includes improvements to the building envelope and fenestration (windows) as it impacts on lighting and equipment installed, especially HVAC systems, as well as any transportation system.

Energy audits provide enterprises with actionable information on the financial impacts of a range of potential improvements they could make to their buildings, equipment, systems and transport. This information enables them to make good business decisions about improving the energy performance of the enterprise.

The energy audit studies all objects that use or affects energy consumption, for example lighting, boilers, AC units, chillers, motors, kitchen equipment, fans, water heaters, vehicles and any installed measures working to conserve energy (such as insulation, air sealing, walls and windows). Upon completion, the energy audit determines where the enterprise can save energy and improve its energy performance. The energy audit report recommends low and no-cost measures including capital improvements that will make the enterprise more efficient. The report also gives an estimate of project costs, calculated energy savings, and payback period.

When implemented, the energy audit recommendations will lead to saving money not only through lower energy bills (electricity, gas, fuel etc), but also by reducing maintenance and operating costs. Improvements can also lead to increased property value. Lower energy bills will result in reduced demand on the CEB and reduced energy import bills for the country, with a positive impact on the environment.

When will mandatory energy audit be enforced?

Mandatory energy audit is already being enforced on Ministries and Government Departments. As for the others, the enforcement date will be as follows:

Category	Average annual energy consumption threshold (toe)	Enforcement date
Local authorities	15	January 01, 2019
Government-owned or Government controlled body	15	January 01, 2019
Statutory bodies	15	January 01, 2019
Private sector	100	January 01, 2021

What do you mean by ‘average annual energy consumption threshold’?

This means that mandatory energy audit will be enforced on those enterprises with an average annual energy consumption above the set threshold.

Does ‘energy’ mean electricity only?

No. It includes all other energy sources used by the enterprise. For example, coal, gas, fuel oil, diesel and transport fuel.

The EEMO does not have the energy consumption data of my enterprise. How would the EEMO determine whether my enterprise should be subjected to mandatory energy audit?

Section 3(2)(a) of the Regulations states that ‘*the annual energy consumption of an energy consumer may be limited to its annual electricity consumption only*’. The EEMO will, therefore, make use of the electricity consumption data of the enterprise. This data will be sought from the CEB under section 3(2)(c) of the Regulations.

The average annual energy consumption of my enterprise is 87 toe. I will, therefore, not be concerned with mandatory energy audit. Is this correct?

Mandatory energy audit in the private sector will be applicable only to those enterprises with an average annual energy consumption above 100 toe. However, this threshold will subsequently be reviewed (decreased) to enlarge the group of enterprises that would be subjected to mandatory energy audit. If the new threshold is set at, say 75 toe, the enterprise will eventually be concerned with mandatory energy audit.

Is an energy audit limited to electricity use only?

No. An energy audit covers all energy uses in the enterprise, namely electricity, gas, coal, fuel oil, diesel and transport fuel.

How will I know that I have to conduct an energy audit of my enterprise?

The EEMO will issue a notification to the enterprise stating that an energy audit of the enterprise will have to be conducted.

Will the EEMO impose the level of energy audit to be carried out?

According to section 4(2) of the Regulations, an energy audit should be carried out to Level 2 (ISO 50002) for all objects and should include any Level 3 energy audit as may be recommended by the energy auditor.

Can an enterprise conduct a Level 3 energy audit only?

No. It is not advised that a Level 3 energy audit be conducted without going through a Level 1 or Level 2 energy audit.

Should an energy audit be conducted for the whole enterprise or for a specific section?

The energy audit should be conducted for the whole enterprise.

A company operates at more than one site. Will the notification issued by the EEMO concern all the sites or one specific site only?

A notification will be issued for each site exceeding the threshold on annual energy consumption set out in the regulations (presently set at 100 toe for the private sector and 15 toe for the public sector). However, the energy audit at any site should cover all objects at the site.

How much time will the EEMO give to an enterprise to conduct an energy audit and to submit the energy audit report?

It will depend on how large the enterprise is. Nevertheless, a period of at least 6 months will be provided.

Will the EEMO consider granting an extension for the submission of an energy audit report?

The EEMO may consider granting an extension if a request is made to it and there are valid grounds as to why the report could not be submitted within the time specified in the notification served by the EEMO upon the enterprise.

Who can carry out the mandatory energy audit?

The energy audit should be carried out by a certified energy auditor, or an energy audit firm, registered with the EEMO.

Who is a certified energy auditor?

A certified energy auditor is someone who has been trained on how to carry out energy audits and who, after successfully sitting for an examination, has been certified by an accredited Certification Body.

Will the EEMO accept an energy audit report prepared by a certified Energy Manager?

No. The energy audit should be conducted by a certified Energy Auditor.

What is the requirement for an energy auditor to be registered with the EEMO? Does the energy auditor need to have some minimum academic qualifications?

The energy auditor only needs to be a certified one, i.e. certified by an accredited Certification Body. No minimum academic qualification is set in the Act or in the Regulations. These are set by the Certification Bodies and may vary between Certification Bodies. One Certification Body may require that the trainee is at least a degree holder while another Certification Body may accept diploma holders.

What do you mean by accredited Certification Body?

The Certification Body should be accredited to ISO 17024 for Certified Energy Auditor or similar.

Are there accredited Certification Bodies in Mauritius?

So far there is none that can certify energy auditors.

Are there certified energy auditors in Mauritius?

Yes. The certified energy auditors registered with the EEMO are listed, with contact details, on EEMO's website eemo.govmu.org. This may be accessed by clicking [here](#).

Are there energy audit firms in Mauritius?

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Is it expected of an energy auditor to have the skills to carry out the energy audit of a whole enterprise?

No. Depending on the complexity and extent of the systems at the enterprise, the energy auditor may team up with other skilled persons to carry out the energy audit.

Should all the team members carrying out an energy audit be certified energy auditors?

No. Only the one who would sign the energy audit report has to be a certified energy auditor.

Who will decide how much data an energy auditor needs to collect for the purpose of an energy audit?

It is for the energy auditor to decide on the amount of data required for the purpose of his/her analyses and to be able to come up with realistic recommendations. In case of non-availability of data, measuring equipment will have to be installed by the energy auditor or enterprise to collect same.

One of my employees is a certified energy auditor and is registered with the EEMO. Can he carry out the energy audit of my enterprise?

No. This is not allowed under sections (4)(3) and (5)(7) of the Regulations.

Will the EEMO accept an energy audit report signed by someone who is not a certified energy auditor?

No.

Will the EEMO accept an energy audit report signed by someone who is a certified energy auditor but who is not registered with it?

No.

An energy auditor, who is not registered with the EEMO, carried out an energy audit at our enterprise. What should we do for the EEMO to accept the energy audit report?

The EEMO may consider accepting the report if the energy auditor registers himself/herself with the EEMO, provided he/she is a certified energy auditor.

Will the EEMO accept energy audit reports which are more than five years old?

No.

Group X has two companies, Company A and Company B. Company A has a certified energy auditor who is registered with the EEMO. Company A has been directed by the EEMO to have an energy audit conducted. Can the energy auditor of Company A conduct the energy audit?

No. This is not allowed under section (4)(3) and (5)(7) of the Regulations.

Group X has two companies, A and B. Company A has a certified energy auditor who is registered with the EEMO. Company B has been directed by the EEMO to have an energy audit conducted. Can the energy auditor of Company A conduct the energy audit?

Legal advice is being sought.

In what form should an energy audit report be submitted to the EEMO?

An energy audit report should be submitted in hard and electronic format to the EEMO.

The energy audit report will contain data and information pertaining to our enterprise. Will these be treated as confidential?

The EEMO and its officers have a responsibility under the Act to treat all data and information as confidential. Section 20(1) of the Act states that “*Any energy audit submitted to the Office by a person responsible for an energy consumer shall be confidential and shall not be published without the explicit permission of the person responsible for that energy consumer*”. Moreover, section 16(1) of the Act states that “*No member or officer shall, during or after his relationship with the Office, use or disclose any matter which comes to his knowledge in the discharge of his functions, except for the purposes of administering this Act.*”.

Can the EEMO release an energy audit report or part of it to any other party?

Yes. This is permitted under section 20(2) of the Act. However, provision is made under section 20(3) that “*A party to whom an, or part of an energy audit has been released pursuant to subsection (2) shall not publish or release the contents of such audit without the written authorization of the Office*”. If that party contravenes this provision, it will commit an offence and, on conviction, be liable to a fine not exceeding Rs 50,000.

Will the EEMO review energy audit reports submitted to it?

The EEMO will, in accordance with section 21(f) of the Act, examine the technical quality of the energy audit report.

Will the examination of the technical quality of an energy audit report include an inspection by the EEMO at the enterprise?

Yes, it may include a site inspection. A notice of at least 7 days will be given to the enterprise. The enterprise will also be provided with brief information of the inspection to be carried out.

Can I prevent an enforcement officer from carrying out an inspection at my enterprise?

An enforcement officer will give the enterprise a notice of at least 7 days before the inspection. The enterprise will also be provided with brief information of the inspection to be carried out. If the enforcement officer is prevented from carrying out the inspection, the enterprise would commit an offence under the Regulations and, on first conviction, be liable to a fine not exceeding Rs 50,000 and on second and subsequent conviction, to a fine not exceeding Rs 100,000.

What will happen if the EEMO is not satisfied with the technical quality of an energy audit report? Would the enterprise have committed an offence under the Act or Regulations?

No offence would have been committed. The EEMO will, under Section 21(f) of the Act and Section 5(3)(a) direct the enterprise to submit a revised energy audit report.

Will the EEMO inform us why it is not satisfied with the technical quality of an energy audit report?

Yes.

What if the EEMO is not satisfied with the technical quality of the revised energy audit report? Would the enterprise have committed an offence under the Act or Regulations?

No offence would have been committed. The EEMO will, under Section 5(3)(b) of the Regulations, direct the enterprise to submit a further revised energy audit report.

What if the EEMO is not satisfied with the technical quality of the further revised energy audit report? Would the enterprise have committed an offence under the Act or Regulations?

The enterprise would have committed an offence under the Regulations and, on conviction, be liable, on first conviction, to a fine not exceeding Rs 50,000 and on a second and subsequent conviction, to a fine not exceeding Rs 100,000. Accordingly, the enterprise should ensure that the further revised energy audit report is of good technical quality before its submission to the EEMO.

A Level 2 energy audit has been conducted at my enterprise. The energy audit report contains a set of recommendations for improving the energy performance of the enterprise. Will this be sufficient for the EEMO?

No. As per section 19(2) of the Act, the energy audit report should be submitted together with plans for implementing the recommendations of the energy audit.

Can the EEMO require an enterprise to amend the plan for implementation of the recommendations of an energy audit report?

Yes. This will follow discussions with the enterprise.

There is a list of recommendations in an energy audit report. Who will follow-up whether the recommendations have been implemented?

There are two cases.

Case 1: The energy audit has been commissioned voluntarily by an enterprise.

The very purpose of an energy audit is to identify areas of energy wastage, with recommendations on how to improve the energy performance of that enterprise. It is for the enterprise to decide whether or not it wishes to implement the recommendations.

Case 2: The energy audit has been commissioned by the enterprise following a direction from the EEMO under section 19(1) of the Act.

After receiving an energy audit report, the Director of the EEMO may, under section 19(3)(a) of the Act, require an enterprise to implement any of the recommendations of the energy audit report within such time as the Director may determine. There will, therefore, be a follow-up by the EEMO to ensure that the recommendation(s) has been implemented.

Will the EEMO decide by itself the energy audit recommendation(s) to be implemented by the enterprise?

The energy audit report will contain a series of recommendations, together with a plan for implementing these. The EEMO will consider the views of the enterprise before finalising the recommendation(s) it will require the enterprise to implement.

Can the EEMO direct an enterprise to be ISO 50001 certified?

There are currently no such provisions in the Act or in the Regulations.

Our enterprise is ISO 50001 certified. Are we exempted from the requirements of the Act for mandatory energy audit?

There are presently no such provisions in the Act or Regulations.

Is there any benchmark on energy consumption by enterprises?

Surveys have been conducted in the hotel, industrial and SME sectors. Data collected during the survey, together with any other data that the EEMO may have to seek from enterprises, will be used to work out these benchmarks.

Does an energy audit assess if there is a procedure to manage energy in an enterprise?

Yes.

Should an energy audit cover water consumption?

No water audit is required in a Level 2 energy audit. However, if pumps are used for the distribution of water, then the energy audit should also consider water consumption as it will affect electricity consumption, hence the electricity bill.

If an enterprise commits an offence under the Act, will it be the EEMO that will fine the enterprise?

No. These will be Court matters.