



Boost Dairy Farm Efficiency and Savings With BPA's Agricultural Energy Programs!

Dairy farmers striving to cut energy costs and improve operations have a great opportunity. Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) works with consumer-owned electric utilities to offer valuable programs. An Agricultural Energy Audit is just one of the many programs designed to help farms achieve greater energy conservation and provide financial incentives for projects.

QUICK & EASY PROCESS:

1. **Contact BPA or the local BPA-served electric utility.**
2. **Complete the Screening Tool: Fill out the BPA Ag Energy Audit Screening Tool form.**
3. **Submit for Review: Send the finished form to BPA.**
4. **Determine Next Steps: Find out if a detailed on-farm energy audit is recommended.**

HERE TO HELP!
Email AgEEprogram@bpa.gov

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Agricultural Energy Audit Screening

The First Step to Dairy Savings!

What is it? This initial screening helps determine if a detailed on-farm energy audit is right for a dairy. It's a quick look at the farm's energy use, daily production, and equipment (like milk cooling, ventilation, and water heating).

Who completes it? Farmers can fill out the BPA Ag Energy Audit Screening Tool form with help from their electric utility or with an experienced agricultural energy auditor.

Agricultural On-farm Energy Audit

Uncover Deep Dairy Savings!

What is it? This is a thorough audit done by a professional to find ways to improve energy use specifically for dairy farms. This can include things like plate coolers, variable speed drives for vacuum pumps, compressor heat recovery, and other custom energy-saving projects.

What to Expect: An experienced agricultural energy auditor will examine and analyze milking parlors, cooling systems, barns, and other dairy processes to pinpoint exact areas where energy can be saved.

Why Get an Energy Audit for a Dairy Farm?

Reduce Operating Costs: Directly lower energy bills from milk cooling, ventilation, and water heating.

Improve Efficiency: Make dairy equipment and processes work better for top performance.

Access Funding: An audit is often required for United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) grant and loan programs like Rural Energy for America Program (REAP) and Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) initiatives. These programs can support dairy farm upgrades. The REAP program offers grants and loan guarantees for farmers to invest in renewable energy systems and energy efficiency improvements, potentially covering up to 50% of project costs.



Qualified Auditors

Audits must be done by certified professionals, such as:

- Association of Energy Engineers Certified Energy Manager (CEM).
- USDA NRCS Technical Service Provider (TSP).
- State-licensed Professional Engineer (PE).
- Individuals with several years of experience auditing agricultural energy, especially for dairies.

Need help finding an auditor? BPA's Agricultural Energy Audit Resources document and the ASABE 2022 Guide to Consultants can assist. (Check the [BPA Document Library](#) for details).



READY TO START SAVING ON THE DAIRY OPERATION?

Contact a BPA-served consumer-owned electric utility or
BPA's Ag Program Manager at AgEEprogram@bpa.gov | 503-230-4349

Take charge of energy costs and build a better future for the dairy farm!