

# **Notice of the National Development and Reform Commission (NDRC) and the Certification and Accreditation Administration (CNCA) of People's Republic of China (PRC) on Strengthening energy management system implementation in Top 10,000 enterprises**

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**To:** Provinces, autonomous regions, and municipalities governed by the central Chinese government; cities listed independently in the state plan; the Development and Reform Commission of the Xinjiang Production and Construction Corps; economic and information commissions (including economic and trade commissions, economic commissions and departments of industry and information technology); administrations of quality and technology supervision; customs and quarantine bureaus; and other relevant enterprises.

The following actions must be taken to meet the requirements of the Comprehensive Working Program for Energy Conservation and Emission Reduction in the 12th Five-Year Plan, and the Implementation Plan for Top 10,000 Enterprises Energy Efficiency Program, and to encourage the Top 10,000 enterprises to continuously improve their energy efficiency and energy management so they can meet the government's energy conservation targets. This circular also addresses how to strengthen energy management systems in the Top 10,000 enterprises.

## **1. Understand the importance of strengthening the adoption and implementation of energy management systems (EnMSs) in Top 10,000 enterprises.**

Energy conservation management helps enterprises to improve their energy efficiency. However, some enterprises still do not take this into account in their business practices. They may not manage their energy normatively and scientifically; they may fail to carry out energy-related regulations or policies; or they might not tap into their full energy conservation potential. Developing and implementing EnMSs in an enterprise means incorporating modern management ideas and models. These include modern process analysis methods, system engineering principles, and the use of the Plan Do Check Act (PDCA) management approach. Establishing EnMSs that cover the whole energy cycle in enterprises strengthens existing structural and technical energy conservation activities. In addition, they help Top 10,000 enterprises to put long-term energy conservation mechanisms in place that continually improve their energy performance.

Since the 11<sup>th</sup> Five-Year Plan, relevant national authorities and some regions have actively introduced systematic energy management methods and piloted EnMSs and certification. The Chinese government also published the National Standard for Energy Management System Requirements (GB/T 23331) – which was later revised in 2012 in accordance with the international standard ISO 50001. All these actions have advanced the implementation of EnMSs in enterprises. The pilot enterprises have improved their energy conservation mechanisms and significantly enhanced their energy management levels through the establishment of EnMSs. This demonstrates that the establishment of an EnMS can help enterprises improve their energy efficiency. The energy conservation authorities at various levels (province, city and

county, etc.) and the Top 10,000 enterprises should fully understand the importance of EnMSs, and should make efforts to enhance organization and leadership, improve policies and measures, and accelerate the establishment or improvement of EnMSs in the Top 10,000 enterprises. This will help improve overall energy conservation management and attain the energy conservation goals set out in the 12<sup>th</sup> Five-Year Plan.

## **2. Strengthen the regulations and guidance for EnMS implementation in the Top 10,000 enterprises.**

**2.1** The goal is to improve overall energy conservation and management, and energy efficiency through the development and implementation of EnMSs in the Top 10,000 enterprises in line with the Chinese standard (GB/T 23331) by the end of the 12<sup>th</sup> Five-Year Plan, and ensure there are long-term energy conservation management mechanisms in place in these enterprises. This will help these enterprises meet laws, regulations, policies and standards on energy conservation; it will encourage the adoption of advanced energy conservation management methods and technologies; it will manage energy use throughout the whole production process; and it will emphasize the importance of building an energy conservation culture.

**2.2** Provincial energy conservation authorities should make plans to advance EnMSs in Top 10,000 enterprises in their respective jurisdictions and encourage them to either establish or improve their energy management systems. The authorities should also summarize best practices and case studies, and organize activities to exchange experiences, such as onsite meetings and seminars. Industrial associations should also play a role by providing enterprises with technical support for EnMS implementation.

**2.3** Energy conservation authorities at various levels should organize qualified consulting agencies to provide training, guidance, and consultative services on EnMSs to enterprises. Consulting agencies should have competent professionals with good technical skills in order to provide enterprises with services such as training and guidance related to EnMSs.

## **3. Encourage Top 10,000 enterprises to strengthen the implementation of EnMSs**

**3.1** The Top 10,000 enterprises should closely consider the implementation of EnMSs. They should see EnMSs as a strategic choice, and should set up an energy management team that is led by a senior member of staff, and ensure that the adequate funds and working conditions are provided. They should carefully examine their energy management practices, formulate work plans for developing EnMSs, and set out responsibilities, tasks, measures and timelines. The training should be organized to help relevant staff grasp the methods for establishing, implementing and improving EnMSs. These enterprises should develop documents detailing their EnMS and release them to staff so they can learn from them. They should monitor their EnMS and improve the control measures for energy utilization processes to ensure continuous and effective operation. In addition, regular checks and assessments should be conducted to identify and analyze any problems in EnMS operation, and they should evaluate the attainment of EnMS goals, and verify whether relevant management measures are in place. Enterprises should adopt corrective and preventive measures for any problems identified, and work to improve the EnMS in order to optimize energy management and increase energy efficiency.

**3.2 Strengthen policy incentives and guidance.** The National Development and Reform Commission (NDRC) will include EnMS implementation in Top 10,000 enterprises as one indicator to evaluate the performance of local governments in meeting their energy conservation targets. Regions that show remarkable achievements will be given extra points in the evaluation process. Enterprises that are implementing EnMSs will be seen as high priority in getting support from central government energy conservation projects, fiscal awards, energy conservation technology retrofitting projects, or benefit from energy conservation technology demonstrations, and energy conservation product subsidies. Local governments are encouraged to establish energy conservation management awards to recognize enterprises and individuals that make outstanding achievements.

#### **4. Evaluate the performance of EnMSs in Top 10,000 enterprises**

**4.1** Provincial energy conservation authorities should include EnMS implementation in the energy conservation targets of Top 10,000 enterprises and evaluate their performance. The Chinese government encourages the Top 10,000 enterprises to carry out voluntary certification of their EnMSs. The certification results will be used as an important reference in relevant energy conservation work. For those who don't adopt EnMS certification, local energy conservation authorities should develop clear and consistent evaluation standards, and relevant agencies or experts should evaluate EnMS performance. Provincial energy conservation authorities should report to NDRC every year on the progress of EnMS implementation and EnMS certification in Top 10,000 enterprises.

**4.2** Agencies engaged in EnMS certification must meet the conditions stipulated in relevant laws and regulations, such as the Regulations of the People's Republic of China on Certification and Accreditation, and the Measures for the Administration of Certification Agencies, and they should also be incorporated according to the law. Certification agencies should have the relevant capabilities to carry out activities related to EnMS certification. They should also meet the general requirements of relevant national standards or rules regarding EnMS certification agencies as well as the requirements of the Accreditation Standards for Certification Agencies.

**4.3** The Certification and Accreditation Administration of PRC (CNCA) will work with NDRC on the development and formulation of the specifications and rules for EnMS certification and accreditation requirements to ensure that they are consistent. Certification agencies should carry out certification fairly, independently and objectively in accordance with relevant regulations on certification and accreditation as well as the basic specifications and certification rules for EnMS certification. Such agencies shall be responsible for the validity of such certification. Certification agencies should also strengthen industry self-regulation, and continuously improve their service capabilities and service quality so that they can provide high-level certification services to enterprises at a reasonable cost.

**4.4** Strengthen the supervision of EnMS consulting and certification activities. CNCA, together with NDRC, will jointly strengthen the administration of qualifications of the EnMS certification agencies, and publish the list of certification agencies so that they are publicly available. Local energy conservation authorities and local certification regulatory departments should, in accordance with their roles and responsibilities, strengthen the supervision and inspection of EnMS implementation in the Top 10,000 enterprises as well as the quality of work of consulting and certification agencies. CNCA and NDRC will punish, or even disqualify, those consulting and certification agencies that conduct illegal or irregular activities, such as

fraud or charging fees randomly, in accordance with relevant regulations of the Energy Conservation Law of the People's Republic of China, the Regulations of the People's Republic of China on Certification and Accreditation and the Measures for the Administration of Certification Agencies.

National Development and Reform Commission (NDRC)  
Certification and Accreditation Administration of PRC (CNCA)

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