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Executive Summary

The U.S. Office of Personnel Management (OPM) is the Federal Government’s chief human resources agency and personnel policy manager. OPM leads and serves the Federal Government in enterprise human resources management by delivering policies and services to achieve a trusted, effective civilian workforce. By Empowering Excellence in Government through Great People, we provide leadership and support to U.S. agencies on issues including human resources policy and oversight, federal employee benefits, retirement services, guidance on labor-management relations, and programs to improve workforce performance.

It is the policy of OPM that all Agency business and operations are conducted in a manner that supports our mission while minimizing our environmental impacts in accordance with all Federal statutes, regulations, policies and Executive Orders. OPM is committed to fulfilling the President’s vision of managing our buildings, vehicles, and overall operations to optimize energy and environmental performance, reduce waste, and cut costs as outlined in Executive Order (EO) 13834, Efficient Federal Operations.

To support the President’s vision, we will reinforce our efforts by implementing the strategies outlined in this Sustainability Plan (SP). OPM is committed to accomplishing these goals by integrating sustainability into agency policies, operations, including improving the efficiency of its buildings, using renewable energy, managing its fleet to reduce petroleum consumption in agency vehicles, promoting the purchase of environmentally-preferable products and services, and managing electronic assets in an environmentally-sensitive manner. In addition to setting and achieving annual sustainability targets, OPM recognizes that weather related occurrences can have an impact on facility operations as well as the ability to achieve its mission; therefore, we will continue to build resilience and adaptive capacity to address these risks and vulnerabilities.

Managing our buildings and fleet in an efficient manner is a key focus for lowering our greenhouse gas emissions and reducing energy, water, and waste. OPM’s 6,255 employees occupy facilities in numerous locations throughout the United States, but our current approaches are to improve building efficiencies to the three facilities where OPM has responsibility for building operations and maintenance. The Agency manages a total of 1.1 million square feet of which two facilities owned by the General Services Administration (GSA): the Theodore Roosevelt Building (TRB), OPM’s headquarters office in Washington, DC, and the Federal Executive Institute (FEI) campus located in Charlottesville, Virginia. OPM also manages the building operations at a commercially-owned leased facility in Macon, Georgia, which houses a data center as well as additional information technology services.

The agency has made significant progress towards reducing greenhouse gas emissions scopes 1&2 relative to baseline, consumed 51% less water relative to 2007 baseline, 24% of annual electricity consumption was clean & renewable energy, spent 3% less for utilities than previous year, awarded approximately $21M of performance contracting at two of our facilities, and improved efficiencies in our vehicle fleet by right-sizing and increased utilization. In FY2020, OPM plans to complete Phase 2 of the Energy Savings Performance Contract (ESPC) project at OPM’s headquarters building. Energy conservation measures (ECMs) include installation of onsite hot water, retrocommissioning, air-side economization, lighting upgrades at lower levels, and heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) improvements. Implementation of these ECMs is projected to reduce total energy consumption, water consumption, and cost significantly. In FY2020 and succeeding years, OPM will continue to interact with cross-functional teams designated to improve efficiencies at our facilities. Additionally, the energy team has the responsibility for monitoring progress against energy and water management goals, evaluating strategies to improve performance, planning and implementing water and conservation measures. The team interacts with individual program offices and divisions, e.g., the Office of Procurement Operations, Chief Information Officer, etc., to provide technical support and ensure that the agency meets all Federal regulations and sustainability requirements.

In FY2020 99% of OPM’s fleet and more than 2,000 Federal personnel will be transferred as a result of the April 24, 2019, Executive Order signed by the President of the United States, requiring a “phase transfer” of investigative duties from the National Background Investigations Bureau (NBIB) as a function of the Office of Personnel
Management to the Department of Defense. Consequently, in succeeding years OPM will realize a significant
decrease in fleet operational cost, fuel consumption, and miles traveled.

In FY2020 – FY2021, OPM will focus on further reduction of energy and water intensity at our facilities; increasing
efficiencies and consume more renewable fuel in our fleet; and increase sustainable procurement. The objectives are
to advance efficiency and sustainability in our operations, reduce emissions, and achieve cost savings to meet or
exceed goals. Progress and performance will be managed using information and data obtained from the OMB annual
Sustainability Scorecard, Federal Automotive Statistical Tool (FAST), Department of Energy FleetDASH, and GSA
Federal Procurement Data System. Further details are outlined in the relevant sections below.

Implementation Summary: Facility Management

1. FACILITY ENERGY EFFICIENCY

FY18 Energy Intensity Progress (Btu/GSF):
- 16.2% reduction from FY03
- 5.5% reduction from FY17

FY19-FY20 Plan:
- 2.5% reduction in FY19 from FY18
- 2.5% reduction in FY20 from FY19

Implementation Status:
OPM’s primary strategy and approach to reduce energy consumption and increase energy efficiency agency-
wide are focused on three delegated leased facilities managed by the agency that accounts for 75% of the
energy and water consumed. In FY2018 and FY2019, we’ve used the annual DOE Energy/Water report, OMB
Scorecard, and the OPM/E3 Monthly Energy and Water Tracking System database to monitor energy use, cost,
and efficiencies. Additionally, comprehensive energy and water evaluations at our covered facilities (as required
by EISA Section 432) are done. Recommended cost-effective energy conservation measures were implemented
using performance contracting.

Based on a 2003 baseline the use of these strategies resulted in an overall energy intensity reduction of 11% at
OPM and 14% at our largest facility; however, meeting this goal is challenging. This is due largely to unseasonal
plus extreme weather conditions during the year and increased occupancy in the facilities. Reductions at the TRB
and FEI are partially due to the completion of Phase 1 ESPC efficiency improvement project that was completed in
FY2016, and ongoing implementation of Phase 2 ESPC at the TRB. Upon completion in FY2020, the project is
expected to produce the following benefits: reduce total energy consumption by an additional 18% (compared to
2016), reduce grid electricity by 914 thousand kWh/yr., reduce annual electricity spend by ~$785,188; production of
hot water onsite from natural gas-fired hot water boilers in lieu of purchased steam.

Priority Strategies & Planned Actions
In FY2020 – FY2021, OPM will continue to use the annual DOE Energy/Water report, OMB Scorecard and the OPM/E3
Monthly Energy and Water Tracking System database to monitor energy and water use, cost, and efficiencies in
conjunction with performing comprehensive energy and water evaluations including retro-commissioning at facilities.
Additional sub-metering installed at TRB will also assist to identify excessive energy and water consumption. Corrective actions will be taken to address these and any anomalies found in data. Cost-effective measures from evaluations will be implemented using performance contracting and appropriated funding. The following strategies have proven effective; therefore, OPM will continue to:

− Integrate Green Button data access system into reporting, data analytics, and automation processes.
− Participate in demand management programs.
− Use remote building energy performance assessment auditing technology.
− Incorporate the GSA sustainable design principles including space optimization standards, daylighting control systems when redesigning interior space.

2. EFFICIENCY MEASURES, INVESTMENT, AND PERFORMANCE CONTRACTING

FY18 Performance Contracting – Investment value and number of new projects awarded:
$14.5M in FY18

FY19-FY20 Plan:
$0.0 in FY19
$0.0 in FY20

Implementation Status
Consistent with the requirements of EISA section 432, OPM performs comprehensive facility assessments periodically. In an effort to achieve energy, water, building modernization, and infrastructure goals, recommended cost-effective findings from assessments have been implemented using performance contracts.

− In FY2014, OPM awarded Phase 1 ESPC for $5.7M in energy efficiency and water savings project at the TRB and FEI campus. In FY2018, Phase 2 ESPC was awarded for $14.8M for additional improvements at the TRB. One of the most significant ECM is replacing district purchased steam with onsite hot water boilers. Energy savings from the boiler ECM was able to pay for the entire project.
− As a result of the installation of onsite hot water boilers used for heating the TRB, site energy consumption will increase significantly; in turn, reducing cost considerable, distribution loss, and source energy supplied.

Priority Strategies & Planned Actions
− In the next two years OPM intends to evaluate our covered facilities and will utilize performance contracting (ESPCs, UESC or Enable) to implement identified cost-effective ECMs in efficiency improvement project.
− Some efficiency improvement may not rise to the minimum where UESC or ESPC may be utilized; hence, appropriated money will be used upon availability. OPM will continue to employ this strategy since it has been effective.

RENEWABLE ENERGY

FY18 Renewable Electricity Use:
24.1% of total electricity in FY18

FY19-FY20 Plan:
25% of total electricity in FY19
26% of total electricity in FY20
Implementation Status

- The use of renewable energy is one of OPM’s chief strategies for efficiency improvement. In FY2018, OPM exceeded the required renewable energy target by 16.6%. 24.1% of the total electricity consumed was obtained from renewable sources; this includes green energy purchases, renewable energy credits (RECs) and 118 Mwh of solar energy generated by photovoltaic onsite at the TRB.
- One of OPMs strategies towards meeting the renewable energy goal is to evaluate potential onsite renewable energy projects at our “covered” Federal facilities during comprehensive energy and water evaluation as required by Energy Independence and Security Act (EISA). In FY2020, purchasing green energy and RECs will be our primary strategy to meet renewable energy targets for the foreseeable future since OPM has already explored all feasible potential for onsite generation.
- OPM facilities purchase green power from utility providers and through GSA area wide agreement to complement current onsite PV generation. This approach has been successful for the agency.

Priority Strategies & Planned Actions

- In FY2020 and FY2021, OPM least 25% of energy consumed will be from a renewable source.
- Employ operations and management (O&M) best practices to track energy consumption and cost.
- Annually, OPM will continue to explore cost-effective onsite renewable energy project (as new technology becomes available) as a requirement of our EISA comprehensive assessment.

WATER EFFICIENCY

**FY18 Water Intensity Progress (Gal/GSF):**

51% reduction from FY07  
0.5% increase from FY17  

**FY19-FY20 Plan:**

1% reduction in FY19 from FY18  
1% reduction in FY20 from FY19  

Implementation Status

OPM is well beyond the goal for potable water intensity with reductions achieved thus far of 51% versus the goal of 20% reduction relative to FY2007. OPM uses its annual DOE Energy/Water report, annual OMB Scorecard, the OPM/E3 Monthly Energy and Water Tracking System database, internal Baseline Performance reviews to track water use. Water conservation measures are integrated into planning efforts through regularly scheduled meetings with the facilities personnel, O&M contractors and Sustainability Working Group.

- Reductions were achieved primarily through the installation of water-efficient bathroom fixtures at the TRB and FEI. In addition, we have reduced water for landscaping by switching to native plants thus eliminating the need for irrigation entirely at the TRB and upgrading to “Smart irrigation controller” at the FEI campus.
- Additional water savings is expected upon completion of the energy and water conservation measures under the Phase 2 ESPC at the TRB facility in FY2020. These measures include retrocommissioning of critical HVAC components at the TRB. The ability to track water consumption is further enhanced by continuous monitoring of sub meters installed at OPM’s facilities. We continue to utilize leak detection programs and water conservation awareness programs for our operations and maintenance staff.
Priority Strategies & Planned Actions
In FY2020 and FY2021, OPM will

- Complete Phase 2 of the ESPC.
- Continue to evaluate monthly water consumption data collected at the facility and sub meter levels for anomalies.
- Continue to use the results from the annual FEMP Sustainability Report to analyze water efficiency.
- Ensure all energy and water assessment at its facilities will include opportunities for water conservation. Implementation of recommended efficiency improvements will follow suit.

3. HIGH PERFORMANCE SUSTAINABLE BUILDINGS

FY18 Sustainable Buildings Progress:

Implementation Status
OPM has been exempted from the High Performance Sustainable Building category due to non-ownership of facilities and all leasing solicitations are done through GSA.

- OPM applies space optimization standards whenever it redesigns or alters office space. Space planning software acquired in FY2014 is assisting with optimization and consolidation projects.
- Occupancy sensors have been employed to reduce energy use at the TRB and FEI under the Phase 1 ESPC. Daylighting will be fully deployed at the TRB upon completion of Phase 2 ESPC.

Priority Strategies & Planned Actions
- In FY2020 and beyond, we will review and update design standards in accordance with current specifications and ensure sustainable design standards are incorporated in major renovations and office alterations as appropriate.
- OPM will work with GSA (the lead Agency) to ensure this goal is met.
- Annual review of measurement and verification (M&V) of occupancy optimization.
- OPM will coordinate with GSA to ensure leased space meets energy efficiency requirements and includes sustainable building criteria where applicable.

4. WASTE MANAGEMENT AND DIVERSION

FY18 Non-hazardous Waste Management and Diversion:
- 333.3 metric tons of non-hazardous solid waste generated*
- 100% sent to treatment and disposal facilities
*not including construction and demolition waste

Implementation Status
OPM’s robust waste prevention and recycling measures, (including reducing hazardous and non-hazardous waste generation) have resulted in the diversion of thousands of tons of solid waste from the landfill.

- All locations of the three facilities OPM manages have robust recycling programs and the Federal Executive Institute also compost kitchen and landscaping waste. Solid waste from the TRB and FEI facilities is converted to energy at Waste to Energy facility. The Theodore Roosevelt Building has a successful source reduction program to collect and redistribute office supplies and related items. To
date, approximately eight tons of materials have been diverted from landfills and over $110,000 worth of supplies redistributed. This program will continue in FY2020.

− Pollution prevention measures are included in all operations and maintenance contracts to ensure recovery of HFCs, minimize the use of hazardous chemicals, and require the use of less toxic chemicals for pest management and landscaping. HFC purchases are tracked and reported annually. Because all construction are contracted through GSA, we do not directly track the recycling of construction and demolition materials; however, recycling data is collected by GSA and shared with OPM project managers.

Priority Strategies & Planned Actions

While the current waste reduction strategies such as source reduction, 3R’s of recycling, reducing food waste, new employee orientation and reuse store for office supplies employed at our facilities are producing satisfactory results, in FY2020, we are planning to strengthen waste prevention and recycling program. The goal is to reduce waste 2% annually and increase recycling by 2% as well.

In FY2019 and FY2020 OPM will:

− Monitor solid waste and recycling generated and educate new employees on the 3 R’s of waste management.
− Reduce waste generation through elimination, source reduction, and recycling.
− Increase recycling diversion rate to 43% (currently 41.1%).
− Revise agency waste, chemicals inventory plans, and identify and deploy elimination, substitution, and/or management opportunities.
− Implementation Summary: Fleet Management

1. TRANSPORTATION / FLEET MANAGEMENT

   FY18 Petroleum Reduction Progress (Gal):
   81% reduction in petroleum fuel since 2005
   0.286% in petroleum fuel since FY17

   FY19-FY20 Plan:
   20% reduction in FY19 from FY18
   22% estimated reduction in FY20 from FY19

Implementation Status

− Ninety-eight percent of the agency’s vehicles are operated by the National Background Investigations Bureau (NBIB) agents, who conduct background investigations for security clearances for the Federal Government. Annually, NBIB conducts over two million background investigations which equal more than 90% of the Government’s total background investigations. Travel demands are determined by the number and types of investigations requested by Federal agencies. Since the ability to reduce travel is limited, our strategy to minimize petroleum use and reduce greenhouse gas emissions is to improve our composition of the fleet to more fuel-efficient vehicles. This includes sub-compact, high fuel efficiency sedans, low greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions vehicles, and hybrid vehicles. This implemented strategy has proven effective. Since FY2014 there has been a significant increase of 15% (a 3% increase from FY17) in miles traveled in order to perform Federal background investigations and requirements to meet the missions; however, fuel consumption has decreased by 5% and a 19% increase in Miles per GGE/Vehicle during the same period.
– OPM’s fleet manager reviews all vehicle replacement requests and identifies opportunities to eliminate and downsize vehicles. At the end of FY2018, OPM had 2,055 GSA leased vehicles, a 41% increase since FY2014. Increased in fleet size is due to the larger number of NBIB investigators required to complete background security investigations. OPM’s current fleet consists of 90% compact and subcompact sedans, 41% alternative fuel vehicles.

– Since FY2016, there has been a 76% increase in the number of hybrid vehicles in our inventory, which helps considerably to increase OPM’s fleet-wide efficiencies. By using a combination of vehicle size reductions, energy efficiency, and alternative fuel capability vehicles, we’ve demonstrated efficiency improvement. This strategy will continue to reduce overall fleet GHG while improving efficiencies based on this trajectory.

– OPM fleet managers will continue using the Department of Energy’s FleetDASH program to track fuel purchases and identify instances where drivers missed opportunities to fuel up with alternate fuel. This effort will also assist with placing flex-fuel vehicles in areas where E85 infrastructure is available. In an effort to increase alternate fuel use, we’ve also launched an outreach program to educate drivers regarding the use of alternative fuel. Due to a large number of miles driven daily and the lack of electric vehicle charging infrastructure, it is not practical to acquire electric or Plugin Hybrid Electric Vehicles (PHEVs) as part of our inventory. To mitigate these challenges, OPM will continue reducing GHG emissions by right-sizing the fleet, acquiring low GHG, and hybrid vehicles.

Priority Strategies & Planned Actions

– As a result of the FY2017 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA), Section 951, Enhanced Security Programs for Defense Personnel and Innovation Initiatives, which directed the Secretary of Defense to develop an implementation plan and related reports to transfer responsibility for conducting Background Investigations (BI) for DoD personnel from the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) National Background Investigations Bureau (NBIB) to the DSS, in FY2020, 2,007 of the 2,052 vehicles will be transferred from OPM’s inventory. As a result, in subsequent years, there will be a significant reduction in fuel consumption, miles traveled and operating cost. 80% of the remaining fleet of vehicles will be used by the agency’s Office of Inspector General for investigative purposes; seven of which are PHEVs. OPM will continue to use the GSA FAST and DOE FleetDASH to manage fleet inventory, improve efficiencies, and increase the use of renewable fuel in our fleet.

Implementation Summary: Cross-Cutting Operations

1. SUSTAINABLE ACQUISITION / PROCUREMENT

FY18 Sustainable Acquisition Progress:
9.31% of contract actions and 6.57% of obligations (in dollars), for a total of $78.2M in contract actions with statutory environmental requirements

Implementation Status
OPM’s overarching strategy to increase the acquisition of sustainable products and services is currently focused on increasing the use of government-wide acquisition vehicles that meet sustainability criteria through Category Management initiatives, increasing sustainable acquisition training opportunities for acquisition personnel, participating regularly in the federal-wide Sustainable Acquisition and Materials Management Working group to learn best practices from other agencies, and to continue to use FPDS data to analyze progress towards our sustainable acquisition goals. Sustainable Acquisition training has been incorporated into OPM’s Purchase Card Program annual refresher training as of June 2018, and was also presented as a stand-alone session to acquisition personnel at OPM’s Acquisition Conference in March 2019. Training topics included Federal
Acquisition Regulation (FAR) clauses, bio-based reporting requirements, proper Federal Procurement Data System (FPDS) coding as it relates to sustainability, sustainable acquisition tools availability (such as the Acquisition Gateway and GSA’s Green Procurement Compilation), applicability to purchases, and changes to acquisition policies as a result of EO 13834. Our current tracking methodology is the report available through FPDS, and as included in the OMB Scorecard for our agency.

**Priority Strategies & Planned Actions**

In FY2020 – FY2021 OPM plans to increase acquisition of sustainable products by acquiring products that are energy efficient (Energy Star or FEMP-designated); water efficient (WaterSense); biobased products for Electronic Stewardship); non-ozone depleting (USDA BioPreferred); environmentally preferable (supports sustainability goals such as EPEAT-registered (Significant New Alternative Policy) chemicals or other alternatives to ozone-depleting substances and high global warming potential hydrofluorocarbons; recycled content, including paper containing 30% post-consumer fiber; non-toxic or less toxic alternatives products (Safer Choice labeled); and fuel efficient products and services (SmartWay Transport partners and SmartWay products). For FY2020, OPM has established a target of 6 contracts and $5.8M in bio-based products to be delivered.

Annually, review and ensure each sustainable acquisition category in OPM's sustainable procurement policy is updated and is in association with Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) Clauses and the DOE Acquisition Regulations (DEAR) Clauses.

Review and update the relevant agency specifications to include and encourage bio-based and other designated green products. We will work in conjunction with the agency’s Sustainable Program Manager to update OPM’s sustainable acquisition plan and procurement policy. We will also review accuracy during the agency’s annual FPDS Verification and Validation review cycle.

FY2019 and FY2020, OPM established a target of 5% contract action and 5% of obligation dollars.

1. **ELECTRONICS STEWARDSHIP**

**FY18 Electronics Stewardship Progress:**

- 100% of newly purchased or leased equipment met energy efficiency requirements
- 100% of equipment with power management enabled*
- 100% of electronic equipment disposed using environmentally sound methods

*excluding exempted equipment

**Implementation Status**

- OPM continues to utilize a centralized procurement process for IT equipment. This contributes to the enforcement that all procured equipment meets mandatory sustainable electronic requirements.
- Power management continues to be enabled through a Group Policy, which is managed centrally through the OPM Network.
- OPM’s policies and procedures will continue to require and ensure used electronic assets are disposed through Federal environmentally sound disposition practices such as: reuse and donation through GSAXcess; donation through GSA’s Computer for Learning (CFL) program or to other eligible State and non-profit organizations; recycling through Federal operations such as UNICOR or USPS BlueEarth; and/or recycling through a private recycler certified under the Responsible Recycling (R2) program or the eStewards® program.
Priority Strategies & Planned Actions
- OPM OCIO plans to procure new mainframes in FY2019, which meets managed power requirements through government-wide procurement vehicles.
- In accordance with GSA Bulletin FMR B-34 Disposal of Federal Electronic Assets, OPM OCIO continues to use Remedy CMDB to identify and manage End of Life IT assets for disposal.
- In FY2018, 100% of procurements have met mandatory sustainable electronic requirements. This is the projected target for FY2019, FY2020, and beyond.

3. GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS
FY18 Scope 1&2 Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions:
64.2% reduction from FY 2008
4.1% reduction from FY 2017

Implementation Status
OPM reduced Scope 1&2 greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and achieved a 64.20% reduction relative to FY2008 baseline, surpassing expectations. The reductions are due primarily to increased building efficiency, with emissions from building energy use down 54% and from vehicles down 90% since FY2008. The large part of the remainder of the emission reduction is attributable to the purchase of green energy and renewable energy credits (RECs). We will continue to work toward further increasing building efficiency and reducing petroleum use in our vehicles, which will result in further progress on GHG reductions. Additionally, significant scope 3 greenhouse gas reduction shall be achieved in FY2019, and beyond due to an onsite generation of hot water in lieu of previously purchased steam from the GSA Heating Operation and Transmission Division.

Priority Strategies & Planned Actions
OPM’s planned actions and priority strategies in FY2020 and FY2021 are inclusive of the following:
- Use the Federal Energy Management Program (FEMP) GHG emission report to identify/target high emission categories and implement specific actions to address high emission areas identified.
- Employ operations and management (O&M) best practices for emission generating and energy-consuming equipment.
- Acquire better data through efforts of internal working groups and continue to perform a comprehensive assessment of monthly utility data for anomalies.
- Continue to participate in energy curtailment during peak demand periods.
- Revise Agency Chemicals Inventory Plan annually and update as appropriate in an effort to reduce and/or eliminate hazardous material.
- Complete implementation of boiler energy conservation measure by FY2020.
- Replace inefficient vehicles with low GHG, hybrids, and PHEVS where appropriate.

Agency Priorities and Highlights

NOTABLE PROJECTS AND HIGHLIGHTS
OPM successfully negotiated with GSA to install onsite hot water boilers at the OPM headquarters building in Washington, DC, in lieu of purchased steam from the GSAs Heating Operation and Transmission Division (HOTD). Substantial costs savings from this conservation measure was used to finance needed infrastructure improvements that have been pending due to lack of funding.