

# Better Buildings Alliance Plug and Process Loads Technology Research Team

February 2023

## Upcoming Event

- Please join us February 9 at 3pm ET at our next Plug and Process Loads Technology Research Team (PPL TRT) webinar titled, “Trust the Process: Strategies for Reducing Larger Commercial Building Plug and Process Loads”. Properly managing larger plug and process loads, often referred to as process loads, can lead to substantial energy savings. Hear from two organizations about their experiences and successes in managing process loads. CMTA will share their best practices for process load reduction from their experience designing high performance buildings. Sabey Data Centers will share their expert insight and hone in on data center energy efficiency best practices. **Register [here](#)**.

## Resource Spotlight

- The PPL TRT recently published a new resource: “[Reducing Commercial Building Process Loads and Refrigeration Unit Energy Consumption](#)”. This resource is an introductory guide for large commercial building PPLs, called process loads, and is intended to help commercial building owners and operators reduce process load energy consumption by providing an overview of reduction technologies and strategies for five categories of process loads: food handling, refrigeration, internal mobility, data centers and information technology, and water handling.
- PPL team member Amy LeBar coauthored the conference paper “[Cooking Up Carbon Reductions: Equipment Upgrades and Fuel Switching Strategies to Reduce Emissions from Commercial Kitchens](#)”, which was published in the American Council for an Energy Efficient Economy’s (ACEEE’s) Summer Study on Efficiency in Buildings Conference Proceedings.

## Research and Recognition

- The 2023 [Integrated Lighting Campaign](#) year has kicked off with four new recognition [categories](#), including sustainability in lighting, germicidal UV, energy justice, diversity, equity, and inclusion, and a category specific to small buildings. In addition to these new categories, the Campaign is still very interested in integrating lighting with other building systems, like plug loads. [Submissions for recognition are accepted](#) now through March 31! Contact Axel Pearson ([axel.pearson@pnnl.gov](mailto:axel.pearson@pnnl.gov)) for more information.

## Funding Opportunities

- The BENEFIT 2022/2023 Funding Opportunity Announcement has been released by DOE’s Building Technologies Office (BTO). Topic 4 is Plug loads/Lighting: Integration of plug load controls with connected lighting systems in commercial buildings with minimal cost and complexity to support building electrification. Concept papers are due February 7 at 5pm ET.
- BTO’s Equitable and Affordable Solutions to Electrification (EAS-E) Home Electrification Prize is underway. EAS-E is a prize competition that supports design solutions, tools and/or technology innovations that make electrification more affordable and accessible

in U.S. homes. The prize is seeking innovators who can help simplify the electrification process for contractors and implementers. Phase 1 submissions are due March 8. Learn more [here](#).

- The Buildings Upgrade Prize (Buildings UP) has launched! Buildings UP is a DOE prize designed to build capacity to accelerate equitable, widespread energy efficiency and efficient electrification building upgrades across the country. [Follow Buildings UP on HeroX.com](#) to learn more!

## Contact Us

- Are you working on any plug and process load research or have data to share? Would you like to be more involved with the Plug and Process Loads Technology Research Team? If so, we would like to hear from you! Contact us at [PPL@nrel.gov](mailto:PPL@nrel.gov).