PLAN FOR YOUR DECARBONIZED FUTURE

With net-zero pressures rising, sustainability is a major water-cooler topic at organizations like yours. Many organizations are setting targets, but to get there, you need a clear plan. Here are five things to remember when developing a decarbonization roadmap.

Start with a Bang

You can't reduce what you don't measure, so start with a greenhouse gas (GHG) emission inventory to understand your square one. Then, look for easy-to-decarbonize areas of your operations. With the right start, you could save money and lower emissions without delay, and build a winning foundation to support future efforts. For example, quick but effective changes include using a local supplier who embraces renewables or upgrading generators to high-efficiency models.

Know Your Costs

Current trends indicate that states are moving towards levying a carbon tax on emitters based on their CO_2 emissions. A strategic decarbonization plan tracks potential charges, as well as the incentives available, to identify the bottom-line costs of decarbonizing (or not decarbonizing). Zeroing in on regulated charges and project costs will help you decide how fast to decarbonize and where to start.

Build a Digital Core

Competitive advantage relies on a digital core with a secure, cloud-based IT layer, a data/AI layer, and an app/platform layer. With an emphasis on interoperability, you can ask and answer questions about your operations and make insightful decisions about everything—from the timing of equipment upgrades to water use reduction. Technology moves fast. You may have to pivot as you implement your long-term decarbonization plan, which is okay! It's easier to adapt when you already have momentum and a digital framework.

Talk Tech

Identify available and emerging technologies that will help you reach your decarbonization goals. Think about the technologies that best match your assets and operations. Is your location sunny? Consider solar generation. Do you have a fleet? Consider going electric. A good plan will prioritize technologies based on cost, risk, availability, and opportunity to scale. It will also chart the likely timeline, cost curve, and resiliency characteristics of these technologies so you can see your decarbonized future taking shape.

Build a Community

Decarbonization plans include several stakeholders, so bring them along on your journey! Establish regular checkpoints to share progress, challenges, and influences that affect how your plan will unfold. Communicate adaptive pivots necessary to reach your overall destination, such as adding new technologies. With all stakeholders in sync, you'll encounter fewer bumps on the journey and benefit from collaboration.

Did you know? Black & Veatch found that:

80% of companies surveyed with revenues greater than $250 million have set GHG reduction goals

25% are unsure how they'll meet these goals

Ready to get started? Contact Us
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