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# The ABC's of GHGs



Portsmouth Facility  
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Josh Silverman  
Office of Sustainability  
Support

Angela Kora  
Pacific Northwest National  
Laboratory



's of GHGs

- A. Why is the focus on GHGs?
- B. What are GHGs?
- C. How do you effectively reduce GHGs?



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DOE's Office of Science



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# Fed'l Government Drivers for Sustainability



*"To establish an integrated strategy towards sustainability in the Federal Government and make reduction of greenhouse gas emissions a priority for agencies."*

## Goals of EO 13514

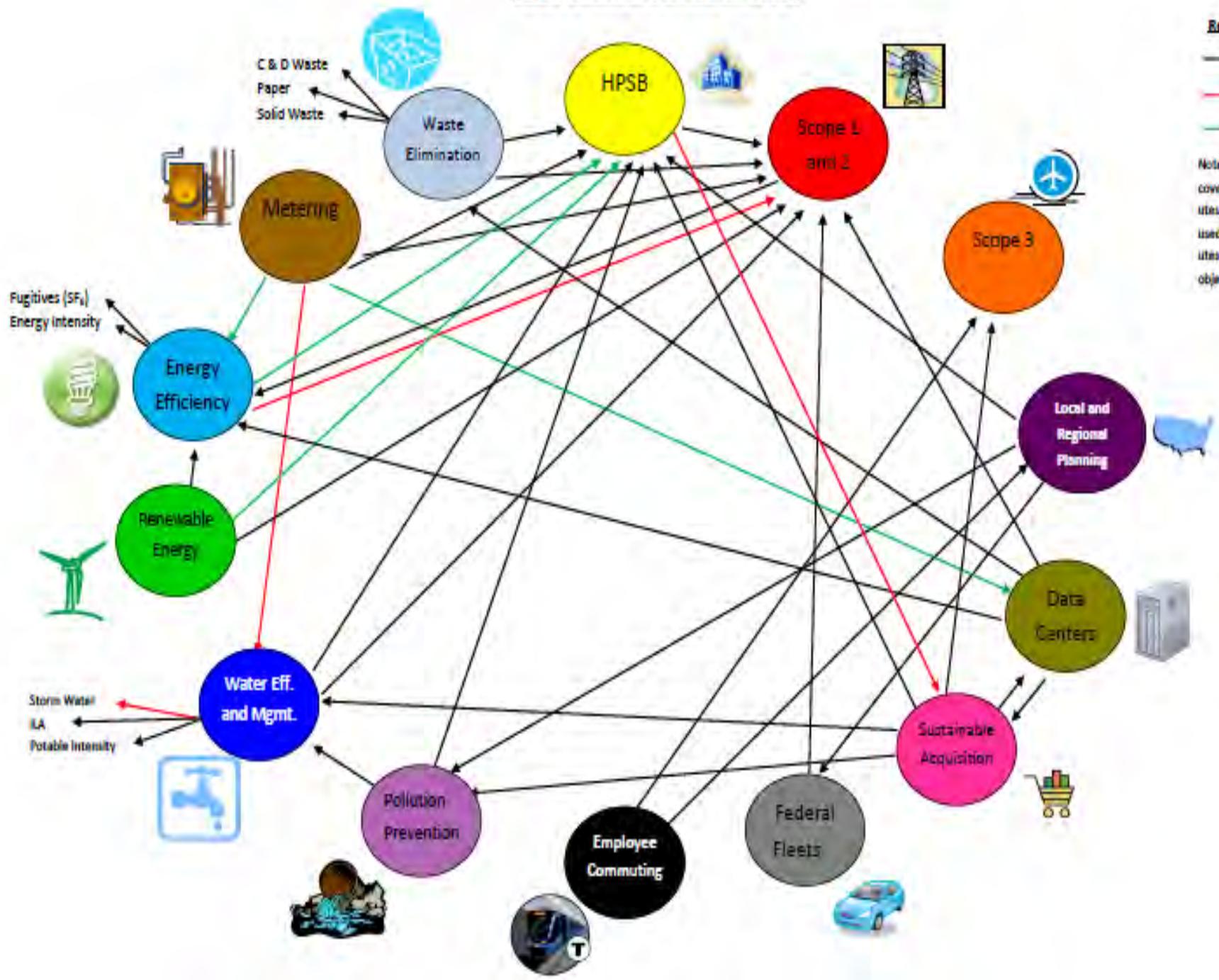
1. Reduce GHG emissions
2. Improve water use efficiency and management
3. Promote pollution prevention and eliminate waste
4. Advance regional and local integrated planning
5. Implement high-performance, sustainable building design, construction, O&M, and deconstruction
6. Advance sustainable acquisition
7. Promote electronics stewardship
8. Sustain environmental management systems

Why

What

How

## SUSTAINABILITY WEB



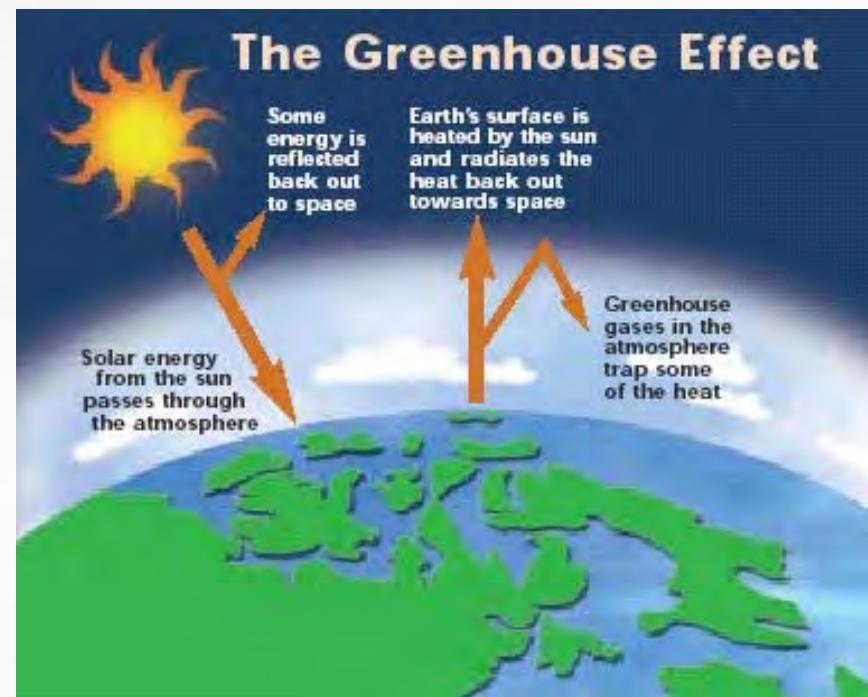


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# What are GHGs?

- ▶ Greenhouse Gases (GHGs) allow sunlight to enter the atmosphere freely. GHGs absorb and re-radiate some of the heat that would otherwise return to space. The primary GHGs include
  - Carbon Dioxide ( $\text{CO}_2$ )
  - Methane ( $\text{CH}_4$ )
  - Nitrous Oxide ( $\text{N}_2\text{O}$ )
  - Sulfur Hexafluoride ( $\text{SF}_6$ )
  - Hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs)
  - Perfluorocarbons (PFCs)
  - Nitrogen Trifluoride ( $\text{NF}_3$ )



Source: Parks Canada <http://www.pc.gc.ca/>

Why

What

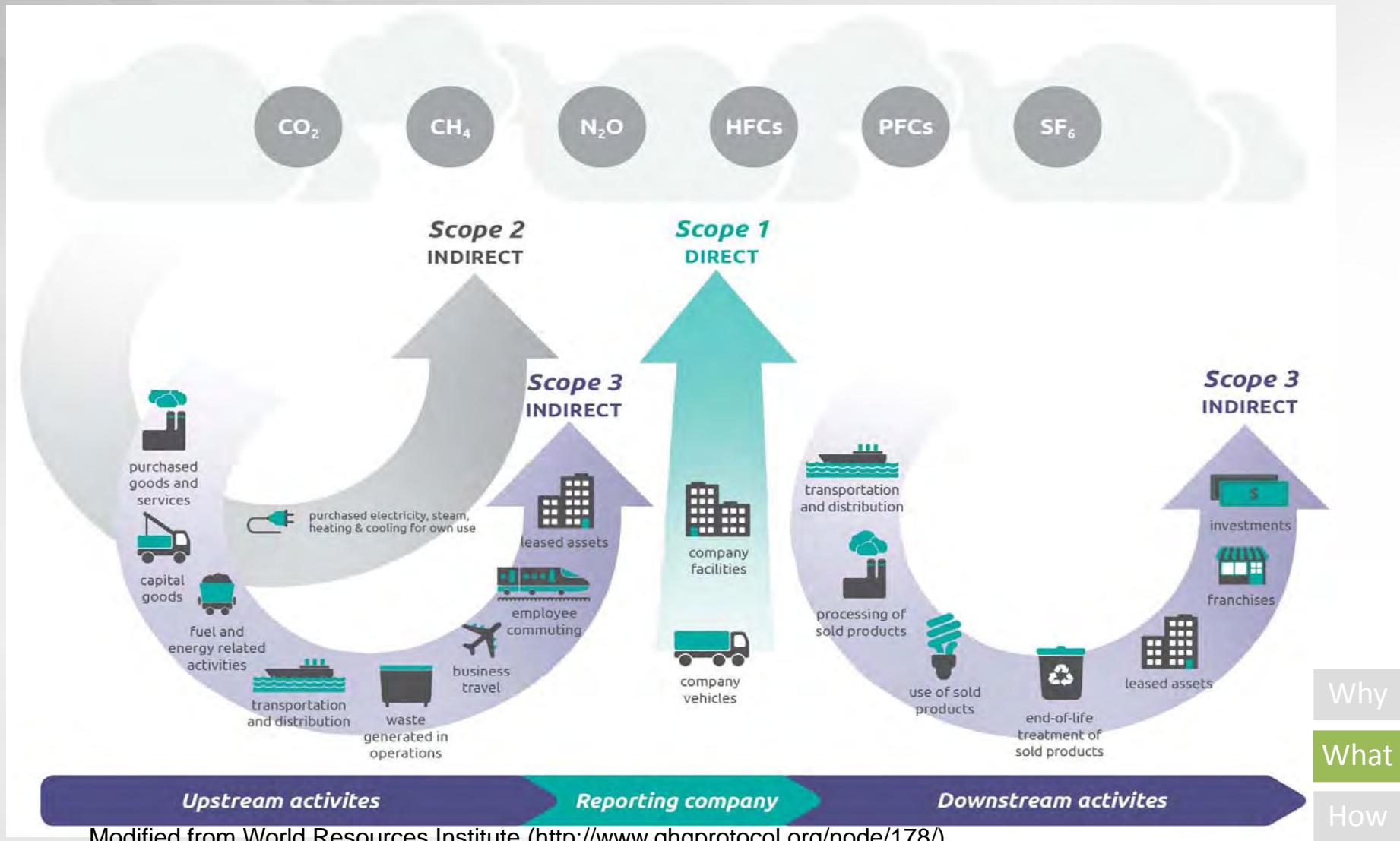
How



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# GHG Emissions: Scope 1, 2, 3



Modified from World Resources Institute (<http://www.ghgprotocol.org/node/178/>)

# Kyoto GHGs + 1



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Greenhouse Gas	Global Warming Potential <sup>1</sup>	Current Concentration	Common Sources
Carbon Dioxide (CO <sub>2</sub> )	1	384 ppm	Fossil fuel combustion, land use and land use changes
Methane (CH <sub>4</sub> )	21	1735-1857 ppb	Cattle, waste water treatment (WWT), landfills, rice fields, natural gas
Nitrous Oxide (N <sub>2</sub> O)	310	320-321 ppb	Agriculture, mobile & stationary combustion, WWT, incineration
Sulfur Hexafluoride (SF <sub>6</sub> )	23,900	6.03-6.40 ppt	Magnesium casting, transformers, switches, electron microscopes, other research equipment
Hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs)	12-11,700	3.2-197 ppt	Refrigerant leaks, fire extinguishers, solvents
Perfluorocarbons (PFCs)	6,500-17,340	77-246 ppt	Aluminum production, semiconductors, health imaging
Nitrogen Trifluoride (NF <sub>3</sub> ) <sup>2</sup>	17,200	454 ppt	Semiconductor manufacturing

<sup>1</sup>100 year time span

<sup>2</sup>Not a Kyoto GHG, but regulated in proposed American Clean Energy and Security Act of 2009 (aka Waxman/Markey)

Organic GHGs and some industrial gases: [http://cdiac.ornl.gov/pns/current\\_ghg.html](http://cdiac.ornl.gov/pns/current_ghg.html)

High GWP gases: <http://www.epa.gov/highgwp/scientific.html>

Why

What

How



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# Fugitive Emissions: Main Sources of SF<sub>6</sub> Emissions

- ▶ Laboratories
  - Emissions from high-electricity equipment (accelerators, lasers, electron microscopes)
  - Point-source emissions from maintenance activities
  - Low-cost emissions reduction possibilities
- ▶ Power Administrations
  - Large quantities SF<sub>6</sub> needed to produce/transmit electricity
  - Emissions often from routine operations
- ▶ Plants/production facilities
  - SF<sub>6</sub> present in electrical distribution equipment, substations, transformers
  - May not be tracked in site chemical inventory

Why

What

How



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# Fugitive Emissions: DOE Fugitive Emissions Working Group

- ▶ DOE established Fugitive Emissions Working Group (FEWG) to share best practices and lessons learned
- ▶ FEWG partners reduced fugitive emissions by 40% since 2008 avoiding over 600,000 MTCO<sub>2</sub>e
- ▶ FEWG awarded Secretary's Achievement Award in 2011

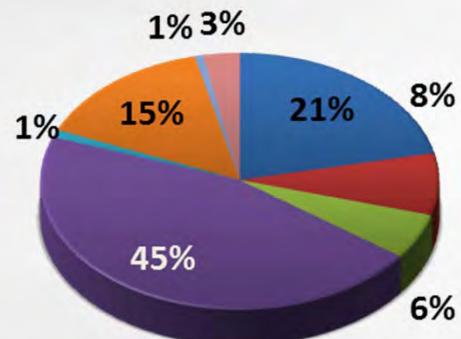
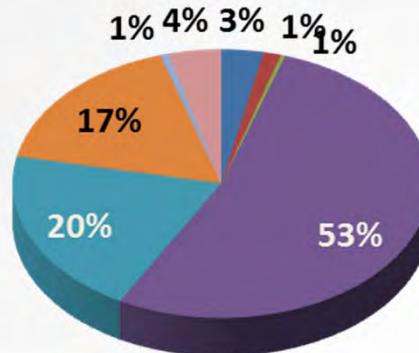
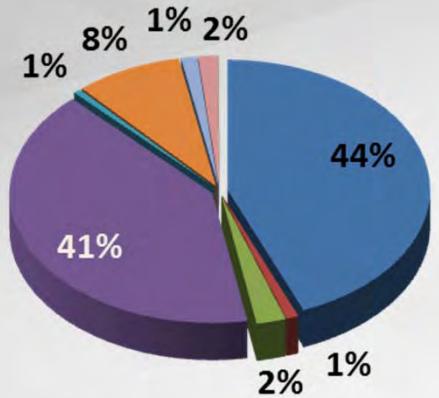




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# GHG Emissions at a Site Level



- Fossil Fuels
- Fleet
- Fugitives
- Electricity
- Business Travel
- Employee Commuting
- Contracted Waste & Water Mgmt
- T&D Losses

Why

What

How



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## How do you reduce GHGs?

- ▶ Building energy use (scope 1 and 2)
  - Implement what has been identified during last week's assessments/what you've learned in today's Sustainable Building Operations and Building Assessments session
- ▶ Fleet energy use (scope 1)
  - Attend tomorrow's Fleet Management session
- ▶ Fugitive emissions (scope 1):
  - Focus on capturing SF<sub>6</sub> – *typically lowest cost opportunity*
  - Emphasize leak detection and repair
  - FEWG working to establish a marketplace for recovered SF<sub>6</sub>
- ▶ Budgets are limited - how do you prioritize efforts??

Why

What

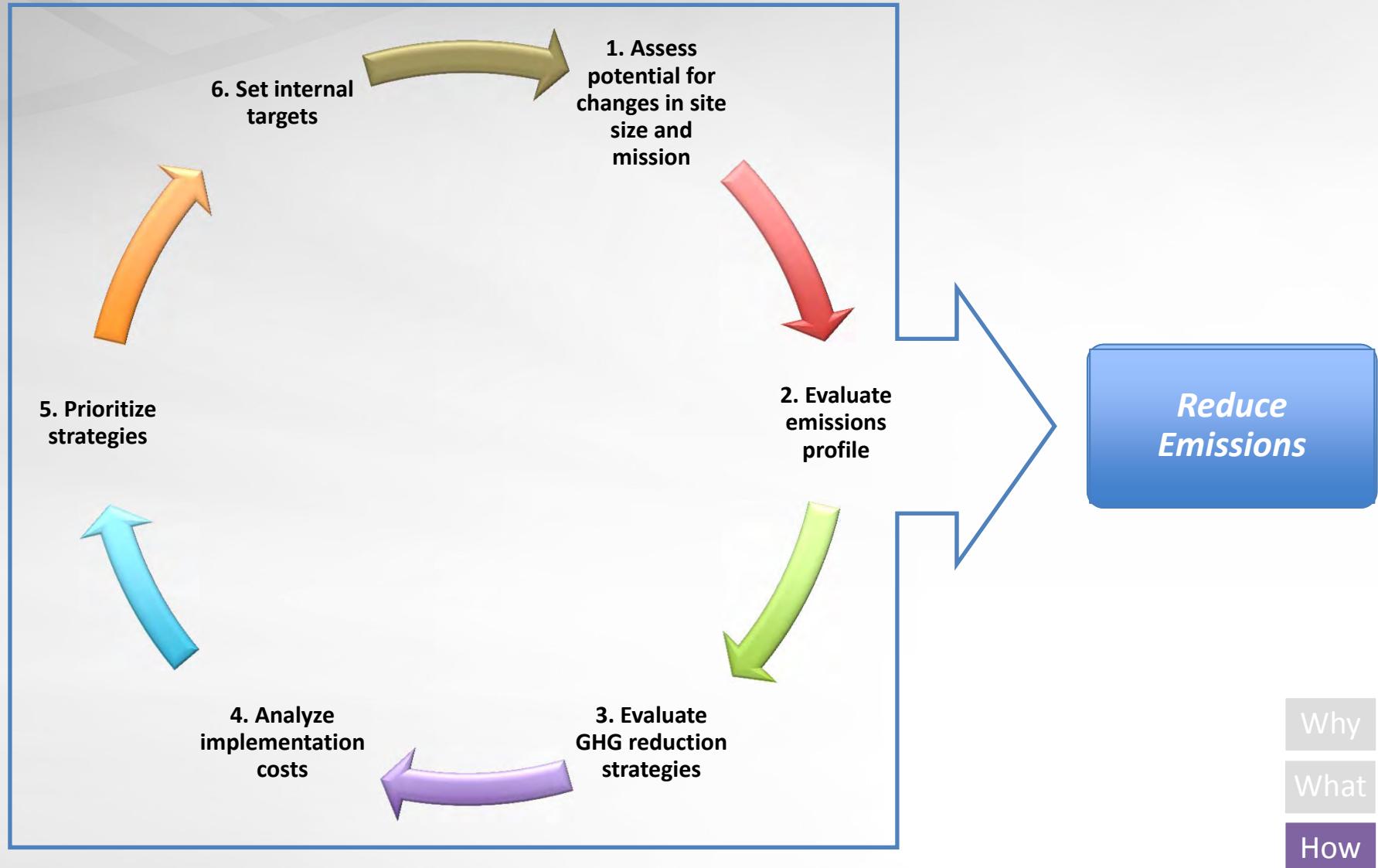
How



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# Planning for Emission Reductions



Assess Potential  
for Changes in  
Site Size and  
Mission

## What are your site's projected GHG emissions?

- ▶ Where will you be in 2020?
  - Number of employees?
  - Changes in work locations?
  - Quantity and type of D&D work?
  - Number of buildings?
  - Changes in electricity consumption profile?
  
- ▶ All else equal, how will that impact your:
  - Scope 1 and 2 emissions
  - Scope 3 emissions

Why

What

How

# PORTS' SSP: Projected Energy Usage and Intensity

Assess Potential  
for Changes in  
Site Size and  
Mission

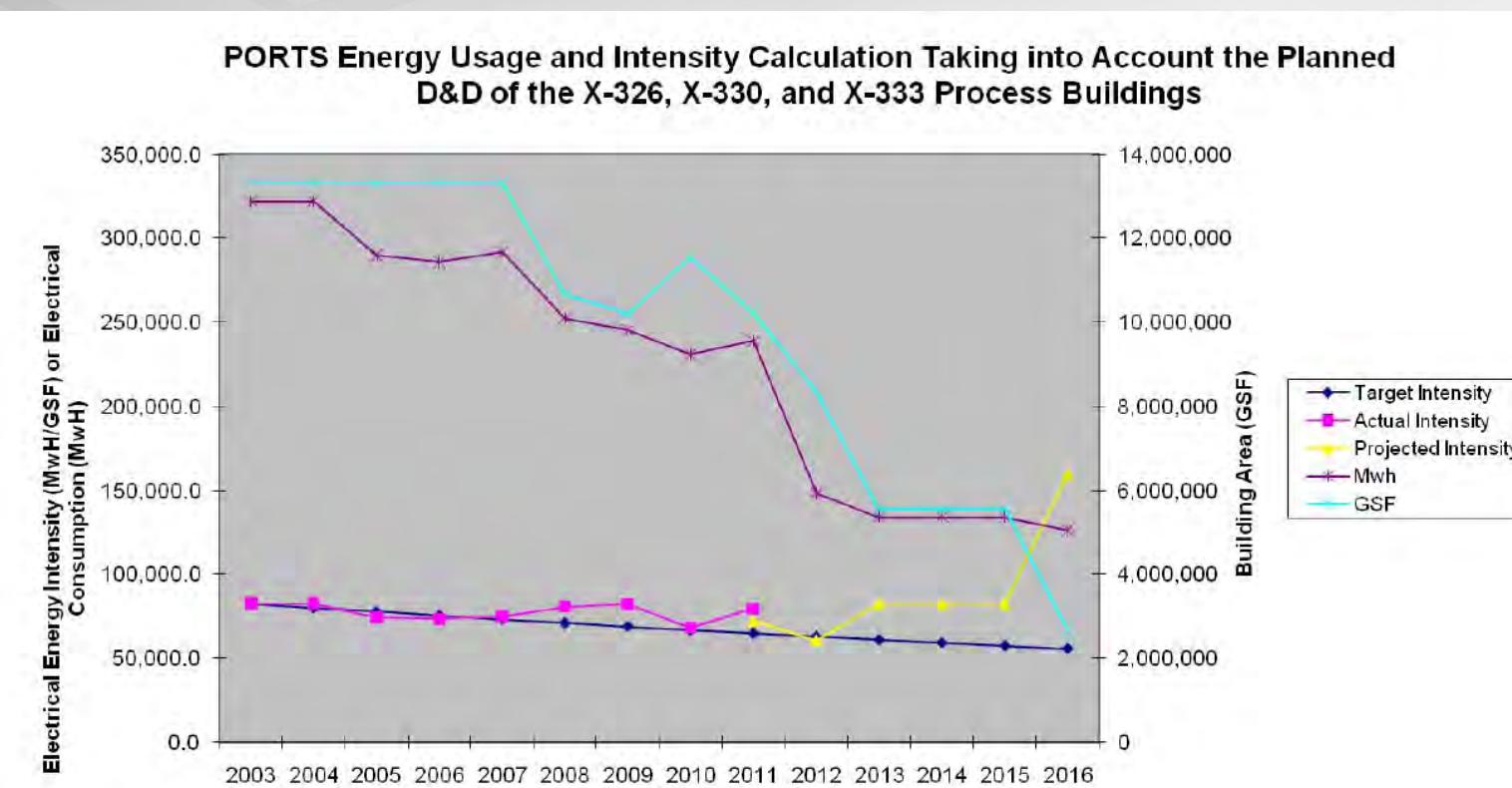


Figure 1. PORTS Energy Usage and Intensity Calculation

Why

What

How

# What is your reduction potential?

Evaluate  
Emissions Profile

- ▶ What is your detailed baseline performance?
- ▶ What are viable options?
- ▶ What is the GHG impact of implementing those options/alternatives?

Why

What

How

## What are viable commute alternatives at PORTS?

- ▶ Eliminate commute
  - Telework
  - Alternative work schedules
  
- ▶ Travel more efficiently
  - Carpool
  - Vanpool
  - Public transit
  - Bike/walk



Why

What

How

## What information can help estimate commute reduction potential?

- ▶ Worksite characteristics that affect commute behavior
- ▶ Current employee commute behavior
- ▶ Employee commute characteristics and fit with alternatives
- ▶ Awareness of alternatives and supporting programs
- ▶ Preferences for commuting alternatives
- ▶ Barriers to adoption and incentives that best promote alternatives

*All but the first are addressed through standard employee commute survey questionnaires*

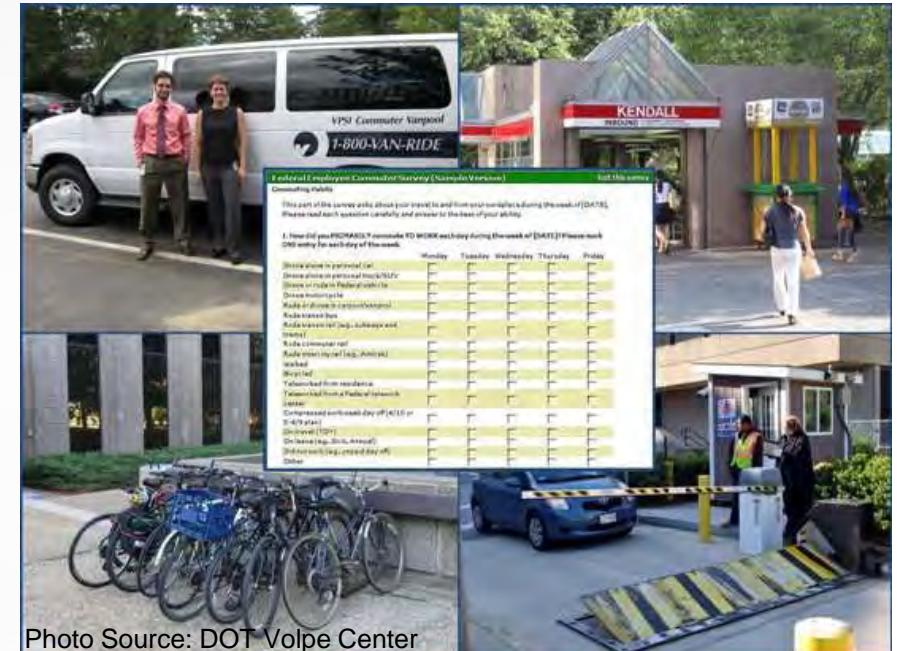


Photo Source: DOT Volpe Center

*Commute Example*

Evaluate  
emissions profile

## How many employees may switch modes?

### Example Adoption Rates

Modes	Near-term adoption rate	Long-term adoption rate
Telework	15%	40%
Alternative work schedule	20%	30%
Carpool/vanpool	10%	20%
Bus	0%	0%
Bike/walking	0%	1%
Note: Adoption rates should be based on an assumed average adoption level (e.g. 1 day/week, 5 days/week) that seems feasible for each mode.		

*Now, how do you get people to change??*

Why

What

How



**Communications:**

- Appoint teleworking advocate
- Establish centralized website to share information on alternatives
- Promote/provide ridesharing support



**Policies:**

- Establish formal telework policy and worker-manager agreements, provide training
- Establish guidelines for assessing employee suitability for telework
- Start a telework pilot and measure success



**Infrastructure/Technology**

- Implement desktop collaboration tools with video
- Remote office locations



1&2

1&2

= Scope 1 and 2 reduction benefit



= Supports business travel strategy

Why

What

How

Prioritize  
Strategies

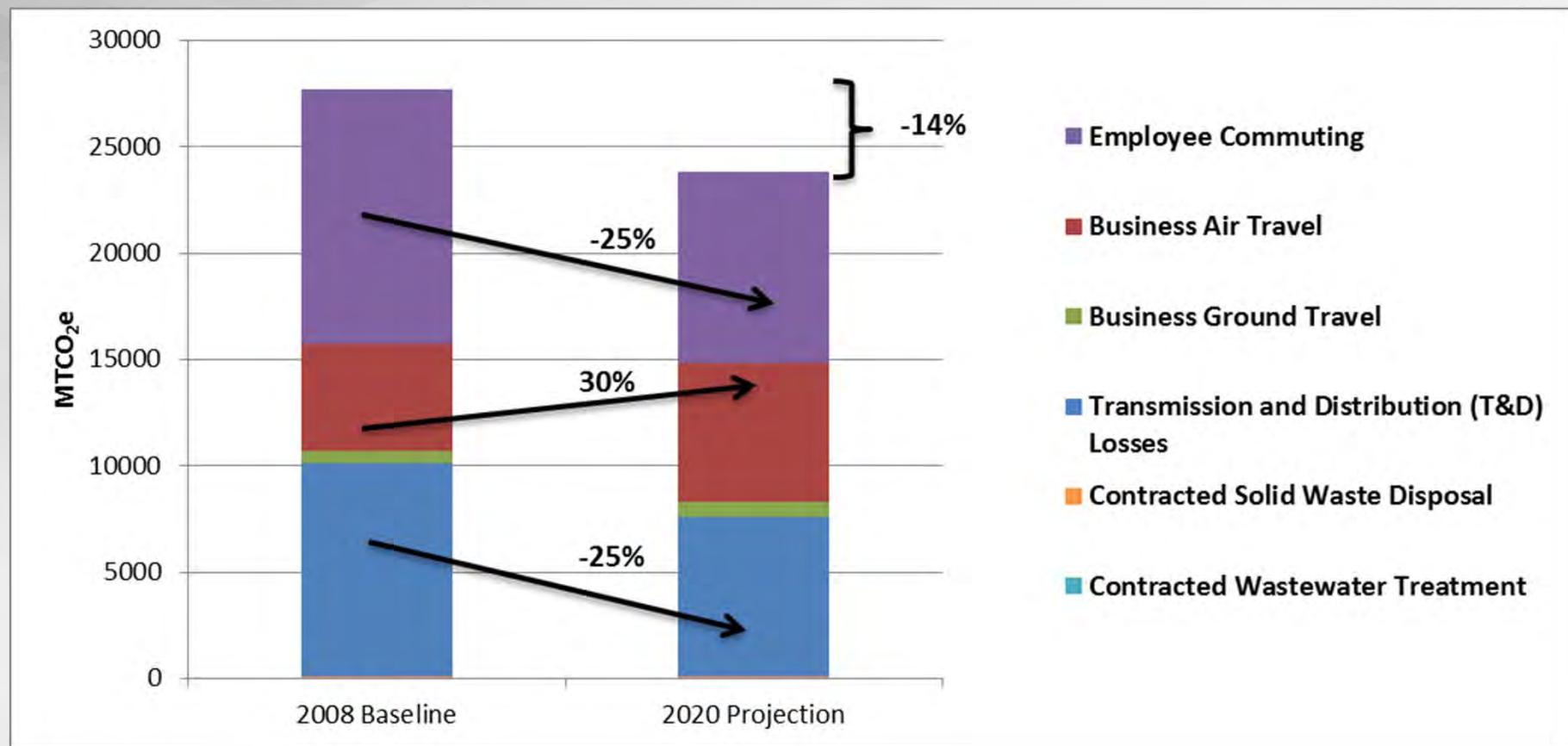
## What's the most cost-effective way to reduce all Scope 3 emissions?

- ▶ Prioritize across all scope 3 reduction actions based on resources available

Scope 3 Reduction Activity	GHG Reduction	Total Cost/ Savings	Cost Effectiveness (\$/MTCO <sub>2</sub> e)	Overall Rank
Telework program				
Alternative work schedule program				
Carpool/Vanpool program				
Business travel				
Contracted Solid Waste reduction				
T&D losses (resulting from planned scope 2 actions)				

Set Targets

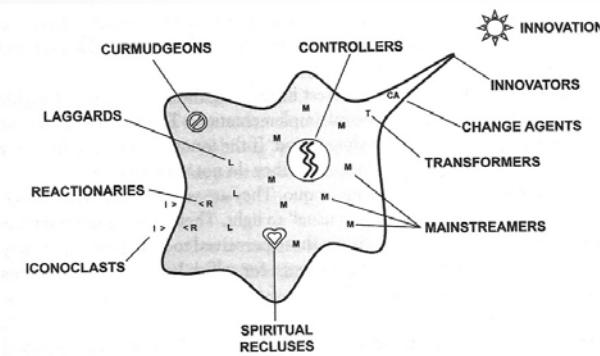
## What percent reduction from our baseline can we achieve?



# From Planning to Action

Reduce  
Emissions

- ▶ Develop a timeline based on prioritized strategies
- ▶ Identify responsible parties for implementing strategy
- ▶ Identify metrics to track progress against target
- ▶ Engage leadership to encourage behavior change across all levels of the site
- ▶ Re-evaluate strategies periodically and adjust plans based on actual progress
  
- ▶ Remember the AMOEBA
  
- ▶ Report success stories!



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Josh Silverman  
Office of Sustainability Support  
[josh.silverman@hq.doe.gov](mailto:josh.silverman@hq.doe.gov)  
(202) 586-6535

Angela Kora  
Pacific Northwest National Laboratory  
[angela.kora@pnnl.gov](mailto:angela.kora@pnnl.gov)  
(509) 372-4191