SITE ENERGY REVIEW / ILLUSTRATIVE CASE

Why is the site still drawing power overnight?

The management decision

Review the operating schedule before assigning a saving. Essential refrigeration, cleaning and other night work can account for part of an apparently avoidable load.

A depot may keep drawing nearly as much electricity after closing as it does during the day. Some equipment needs to stay on. Some may follow schedules no one has reviewed. Before investing in an upgrade or asking teams to change how they operate, find out which patterns warrant a closer look.

Worked example

An unexplained 12 kW demand lasts six hours on each of 20 nights. That represents 1,440 kWh to investigate. A whole-site meter shows the timing, while the site team needs to confirm which equipment was running.

Example figure	What it represents
12 kW	Extra demand
6 h	Hours per night
1,440 kWh	Over 20 nights

What changes the answer

If only three hours a night can be avoided, the potential reduction halves to 720 kWh for the period. Confirm that the operating pattern is representative before extending the calculation to a full year.

Site energy review

What to commission

Compare whole-site readings for one site with opening times and one period of unusual overnight demand.

We establish a reference period, look for peaks and overnight demand, and identify gaps in the readings. We flag the periods that most deserve an explanation and use the operating records to prepare questions your site team can investigate.

How to judge the result

The site team can locate the periods of excess demand and identify which equipment or schedules need local verification.

Use the site’s confirmed avoidable hours and applicable energy rate to value the opportunity. Record any change in service or operating conditions before comparing another period.

Decision worksheet

Project detail	Starting point for your team
Decision owner	Facilities manager. Name the person who will approve the next step.
Records to gather	Site meter readings, operating hours and a note on equipment that runs after closing.
Agreed output	An editable chart and workbook, a summary of normal use and priorities for site checks.
Decision date	Record the deadline, any unresolved assumption and who will confirm it.

Discuss this case

Tell us which site concerns you and what looks different from what you expected. Mention if there is a spending decision, a bill increase or a review deadline. Even a rough account of when the site opens and closes helps us discuss the first comparison.

Email info@oxetc.co.uk and mention ENG-01. All figures in the worked example are illustrative.