The Idea: Energy Audits

- Energy audits identify opportunities where new equipment or operational changes could reduce energy consumption.
- To be effective, audit recommendations must be implemented, and property owners determine which recommendations to implement.
- Available for commercial, industrial, and residential properties.

The Action:

- Research commercial, industrial, and residential energy audit opportunities and prioritize sectors.
- Identify a service provider to conduct energy audits and provide recommendations that will reduce energy consumption within prioritized sector(s).
- Incentivize action by property owners. For example, audit fees could be charged and then refunded when audit recommendations of equal or greater value are implemented. Audit fees would be waived for low-income households.

The Pollution Source: 11% of NOx comes from Electricity Generation¹

The Cost-effectiveness: $141/lb of NOx

The Factors:

- Audits only reduce energy use if recommendations are implemented.
- It takes significant, sustained reductions in energy demand to decrease production by power plants.
- Participants may see savings on their bill, but that doesn’t directly translate into emissions avoided from power generation.
- Particulate Matter – Medium co-benefits
- Greenhouse Gas – High co-benefits

¹ 9.08 tons/day of NOx. Source: Revised Maintenance Plan For The Charlotte-Gastonia-Salisbury, North Carolina 2008 8-Hour Ozone Marginal Nonattainment Area (July 2018)