

Guide to Custom Reporting in Portfolio Manager

EPA’s ENERGY STAR Portfolio Manager tool helps you measure and track the energy use, water use, and greenhouse gas emissions of your buildings, all in a secure online environment. You can use the results to identify under-performing buildings, set investment priorities and verify efficiency improvements.

The reporting feature in Portfolio Manager offers a variety of reports and graphics to help you view and share performance metrics. This includes standard reports with popular metrics, as well as custom reports that allow you to select specific metrics and information to view in a table or export for further analysis.

To produce a custom report, you must first create a report template. You can then generate your report for download or display, share the template with others, or use the template to request data from other Portfolio Manager users. The ability to request data from others is especially valuable for voluntary and mandatory building benchmarking programs, which need a mechanism to collect and analyze energy performance data from a large number of participating properties. This document will guide you through the process of creating and working with Custom Reports.

Create a Custom Report

1. Create a report template.
2. Use the template you created to:
 - Generate a custom report.
 - Share your template.
 - Request data from others.

1 Create a Report Template

Begin by defining the basic organization of your report (metrics, time periods, properties). Follow these easy steps:

1. Click the **Reporting** tab and then click **Create a New Template**.
2. Enter information in the four fields:
 - a. **Name:** Use a unique and descriptive name for the template (e.g., “Report Template for XYZ 2013 Energy Competition”).



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Create a Report Template

Report templates provide you with an easy way to regularly access information and metrics. You can regularly prepare reports or graphs using Excel. You can also use your custom report template to collect data from other Portfolio Manager users. You can even share templates that you create with other people who may have similar needs with their properties.

- 1 Name Your Template**
Name: *
Please provide a unique name for this template.
- 2 Select Timeframe of Information to Include**
Timeframe: *
Each property you include must have at least one complete period ending date (12 full months of information) in order for metrics you select to be able to be calculated. If metrics cannot be calculated, "NA" will be displayed in your report.
- 3 Select Properties to Include**
Properties: *
- 4 Select Information & Metrics to Include**
Information & Metrics: * Selected Items: 4

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- b. **Timeframe:** Select a timeframe for which to generate data.
- c. **Properties to Include:** Select one, multiple, or all properties to include in the template. **NOTE:** If you select **All Properties**, Portfolio Manager creates a report with all properties in your account at that time. If you add new properties, or if properties are shared with you, you need to update the template and select **All Properties** again in order to include the new properties.
- d. **Information & Metrics to Include:** Select metrics across the 15 available categories to include in your template.

- i. Click **Select Information & Metrics** to see the list of available metrics.
- ii. Click on a metrics category and check the boxes for the metrics you want to include in the template. Click **View Selection** at any time to view the metrics currently included in the template.
- iii. Click **Apply Selection** to finalize the list of chosen metrics.

Timeframe Options

- ✓ **Current Year:** The most recent year in which each of your properties has a full year of data. This can be a different year for each property.
- ✓ **Single Year:** You select a specific year.
- ✓ **Compare Two Years:** Compares your properties for each of two specific years that you select.
- ✓ **Compare Baseline Year:** Compares your properties between each property's baseline period and another year that you specify.
- ✓ **Compare Current Year:** Compares your properties between each property's current year and another year that you specify.
- ✓ **Current Year vs. Baseline Year:** Compares your properties between each property's current year and its baseline year.



- e. Click **Save Template** to save your selections. You will be taken back to the **Reporting** tab and you will receive a notification that your template has been successfully saved.

2 Use the Template You Created

Put your template to work! Your new custom template will appear in the **Templates & Reports** section on the **Reporting** tab. You can choose the following options from the **Action** drop-down menu next to the name of the template.

- ✓ **Generate a New Report:** View and download a report based on your template.
- ✓ **Edit this Template:** Change your selection of metrics or time periods.
- ✓ **Share this Template:** Share your template with others.
- ✓ **Request Data using this Template:** Use your template to request data from others.
- ✓ **Delete this Template:** Delete your template if you no longer need it.

3 Generate and View a Custom Report

Once you have created your template, you can generate a report to see data based on the specifications defined in your template.

1. Select **Generate New Report** from the **Action** drop-down menu next to the name of the custom template. When the report is ready, you will see a message that your report has been generated and it will appear in the **Templates & Reports** section at the bottom of the **Reporting** tab. If a large number of properties and/or metrics were selected for inclusion in your template, it may take a few minutes or longer to generate your report. Once the report has been generated, the **Status** column indicates “Generated” with the date and time the report was produced. **NOTE:** You no longer need to wait overnight for new data to be included in your report.
2. Select an option from the **Action** drop-down menu next to the report. You can view the report in Portfolio Manager, download it in a different file type (XLS or XML), edit your template, generate a new report after editing your template, share your template, request data, or delete the template.

Templates & Reports (3) Create a New Template

Your new spreadsheet(s) has been generated.

Name	Date	Action
Custom Report Template 1	Generated: 5/16/2013 5:51 PM	I want to... View Current Report Download Current Report in Excel Download Current Report in XML Generate New Report Edit this Template Share this Template Request Data using this Template Delete this Template
Sample EPA Report #2	No Spreadsheet Generated	
Sample EPA Report #1	No Spreadsheet Generated	

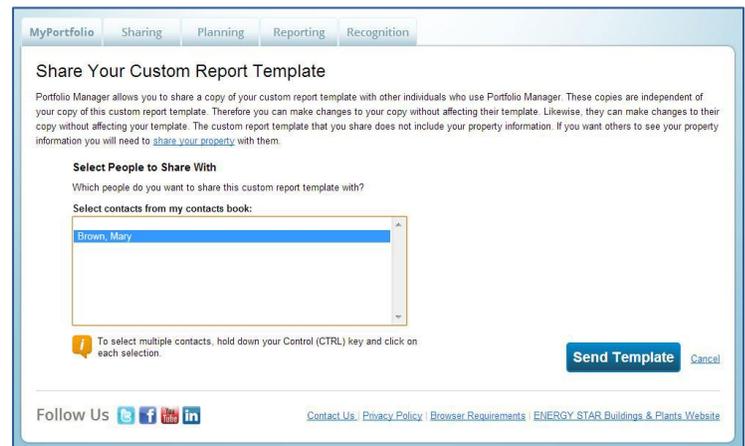
Generated spreadsheets will be available for 30 days past the generation date, after which time a new spreadsheet must be generated using the template.

[Learn More About Using Data Spreadsheet Templates](#)

4 Share Your Template

You can share a copy of your custom report template with any of your contacts with whom you are connected, allowing the contacts to use the template to run reports on properties in their own portfolios.

1. Select **Share this Template** from the **Action** drop-down menu next to the designated spreadsheet. **NOTE:** Any subsequent edits you make to the template will not affect the copy you shared with others. Likewise, any edits your contacts make do not affect your copy of the template.
2. Select the contacts with whom you want to share your template, and then click **Share Template**. Keep in mind that sharing a template does not share any data that you may have populated into your own report using that template.
3. You can also choose for Portfolio Manager to provide a custom link that will allow any user to copy the template to their account. To generate the link, select the second check box and click **Share Template**. Portfolio Manager then generates a unique link at the top of the **Reporting** tab that you can copy and paste into an email and send to users with whom you are not connected.



5 Request Data from Others

You can also request data from other Portfolio Manager users. By asking others to complete your template with information from their accounts, you will receive the data you need in order to report on program results.

Follow these steps to request data:

1. Select **Request Data using this Template** from the **Action** drop-down menu next to the designated template.
2. Enter information in the four fields:
 - a. **Name:** This field is pre-populated with the name of your template; however, you can change the name when requesting data from others. If you will be making multiple data requests from the same template, you may want to make the names unique.

Aggregate Collected Data

You can request data from multiple Portfolio Manager users. Portfolio Manager aggregates the collected data into one custom report, from which you can calculate many summary statistics or program figures, such as total greenhouse gas emission reductions or total cost savings.

- b. **Verify the Data you are Requesting:** Choose a new timeframe or no timeframe (which allows recipients to choose their own). Selecting a location limits users to only releasing data from properties located in the specified country or province/ territory. The information and metrics in your template will also be displayed. To make changes to the metrics, go to the previous page and select **Edit this Template** from the **Action** drop-down menu.

1 Name Your Request

Name: * Data Request Test2

2 Verify the Data you are Requesting

Timeframe: * No specific timeframe requested Specific timeframe requested

Current Period Ending Date

Location(s): * No specific Country & State(s)/Provinces selected Specific Country & State(s)/Provinces selected

Metric Category	Metric Name
Property ID Numbers	Portfolio Manager Campus Property ID
Property ID Numbers	Portfolio Manager Property ID
Property Information	Parent Property Name
Property Information	Property Name

6 Selecting Information & Metrics

If you select a large number of items, it will make it more difficult for people to respond to your request and more time consuming for you to retrieve responses. Remember each item you request will be multiplied by the number of properties that each respondent includes in their response. Responses that are too large may take a long time for Portfolio Manager to compile before you can retrieve the responses. [Learn more about selecting information and metrics for data requests.](#)

7 Need to change the metrics?

If you need to make adjustments to the

- c. **Identify a Contact Person:** Select a contact person whose information is sent with the request, so users know who they can contact if they have questions.
- d. **Provide Detailed Instructions for Your Request:** Provide additional information as needed, such as submission deadline, requested time periods, or any other information that will help others successfully complete your data request.
3. Click **Save Request** to save the request, or click **Publish Request** to send the request. After you publish the request, you will see a confirmation page, which includes a copy of your instructions and a dedicated URL that others will use to access and complete your reporting request. You must include this URL in any communications to your recipients so they can access your data request.

The Difference Between Sharing and Requesting Data from Others

When a connected contact shares a property with you, you can view that property's data at any time. If you include that property in any of your reports for any time period, the report will pull the most up-to-date information for the property from the contact's account.

When a Portfolio Manager user responds to your data request, you will only receive the information and metrics specified in the data request template for the specified time period, and only at times when the user responding to your request chooses to send the data to you.

6 Report Guidance

The custom reporting feature allows users to view and analyze data in new and exciting ways, and can help to calculate the impacts of individual energy efficiency measures or the results of a comprehensive efficiency program. For example, you can identify which of your properties has the highest score or lowest greenhouse gas emissions footprint, or inform investment decisions by ranking your properties by energy costs. As you use the reporting feature, please note:

- ✓ Reports return values for each metric in each selected time period.
- ✓ Reports with two time periods automatically calculate the change in each metric for each property between the two selected time periods, and display this information on the **Comparisons** tab. This allows you to easily calculate useful energy savings statistics for your portfolio. **NOTE:** A property must have a value in each time period in order to be included in the **Comparisons** tab.
- ✓ Using the **Request Data using this Template** feature, you can obtain the same metrics for the same time period(s) for all properties that return data. This is useful for energy efficiency programs seeking to aggregate energy savings across participating buildings in order to calculate program impact.

As you develop your custom report template(s), consider whether there are any additional statistics that you would like to be able to calculate from the returned data, and make sure that the necessary metrics are included in your template to allow you to make these calculations. The **Comparisons** tab can provide the change in specific metrics between two periods, but further calculations may be necessary if you want to obtain portfolio-wide aggregate metrics, such as:

- ✓ Average improvement in ENERGY STAR score across portfolio, weighted by property size (include ENERGY STAR score and property floor area in your template).
- ✓ Total portfolio percent savings since baseline (include source energy use in your template).
- ✓ Portfolio-wide average energy savings per square foot (include source EUI and property floor area in your template).
- ✓ Average property percent savings across portfolio (include source energy use in your template).
- ✓ Portfolio-wide average cost savings per square foot (include energy cost and property floor area in your template).

Learn More!

To learn more about Portfolio Manager, visit www.nrcan.gc.ca/energystarportfoliomanager.

To get answers to your questions, e-mail info.services@nrcan-rncan.gc.ca or phone 1-877-360-5500 (toll-free) / 613-992-3245 in the National Capital Region.