Also,most buildings have open to them a variety of equioment- or building - fabric related energy-saving opportunities, most of which require a more significant capital investment. you are probably aware of many of these, such as upgrading insulation or replacing lighting equipment, but good places to look for ideas include the Carbon Trust and Energy Star websites.

Although your detailed meter data won't necessarily help you to find of lighting equipment- or building - fabric related energy-saving opportunities(e.g it won't tell you that a more efficient type of lighting equipment exists), it will be useful for helping you to quantify the potential savings that each oppportunity could bring, It's much more reliable to base your savings estimates on real metered data than on rules of thumb alone. and it's critically important to quantify the expected savings for any oppportunity that you are considering investing a lot of time or money into - it's the only way you can figue out how to home in on the biggest, easiest energy savings first.

And, using your detailed interval data, it's usually pretty easy to make reasonable estimates of how much energy is being wasted at different times. For example,if you've identified that a lot of energy is being wasted by equipment left on over the weekends, you can

Alternatively, if you have no idea of the proportion of energy that is being wasted by equipment left on unnecessarily, you could

just finding the opportunities to save energy won't help you to save energy - you have to take action to target them....

for those energy-saving opportunities that require you to motivate the people in your building, our article on energy awareness should be useful. it can be hard work, but, if you can get the people on your side, you can make some seriously big energy savings without investing anything other than time.

as for those energy-saving opportunities that require you to upgrade equipment or insulation; assuming you've identified them,these's little more to be said. Just keep your fingers crossed that you make your anticipated savings, and be thankful that you don't work for the son of organization that won't invest in anything with a payback period over month

once you're taken action to save energy, it's important that you find out how effective your actions have been:

energy savings that come from behavioural changes (e.g, getting people to switch off their computers before going home) need ongoing attention to ensure that they remain effective and achieve their maximum potential.

if you're invested money into new equipment, you'll probably want to prove that you've achieved the energy savings you predicted.

if you're corrected faulty timers or control-equipment settings, you'll need to keep checking back to ensure that everything's still working as it should be. Simple things like a power cut can easily cause timers to revert back to factory settings - if you're not keeping an eye on your energy-consumption patterns you can easily miss such problems.

if you've been given energy-savings targets from above, you'll need to provide evidence that you're meeting them, or at least making progress towards that goal...

and occasionally you might need to prove that progress isn't being made (e.g, if you're at your wits and trying to convince the decision makers to invest some money into your energy-management drive)

look back at the data for that evening to see how many kW were being used after you switched everything off.

subtract the target kW figure(ii) from the typical kW figure for weekends to esmate the potential savings in kW(power)

multiply the kW savings by the number of hours over the weekend to get the total potential kWh energy savings for a weekend