

May 21, 2010

[CBP Deadline Extended to 05/28/10](#)

DOE

Building Owners and Operators: The DOE's [Commercial Building Partnerships \(CBP\)](#) program is offering energy analyses through technical experts at no cost. The deadline to submit CBP [applications](#) was extended until **noon, EST on May 28, 2010**. Through CBP, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, National Renewable Energy Laboratory, and Pacific Northwest National Laboratory personnel and private sector experts will help CBP participants (1) cut energy use by 30% to 50%; (2) investigate portfolio-wide energy efficiency measures; and (3) validate the efficacy of energy saving strategies.

GREEN BUILDING FOCUS

[Challenge of LEED Gold school denied](#)

Vilas County News Review - May 18

Residents challenged the LEED gold certification of a Wisconsin high school by filing a 125-page complaint with the USGBC. When certified in 2006, the school was [lauded by the USGBC](#) as "built for \$115 per square foot, more than a third less than the regional high school construction average" and was "designed to be 40% more efficient than the ASHRAE 90.1-2004 baseline building." USGBC staff and third-party engineers upheld the school's LEED Gold designation. Under current rules, the USGBC delegated [certification challenges](#) to the GBCI which may undertake its own investigation or receive complaints from a person "concerned with possible inaccurately granted LEED certification."

[CaliforniaFIRST - energy efficiency loan program](#)

San Jose Business Journal - Apr 30

Starting in July, 2010, CaliforniaFIRST, an AB 811 program, will allow residential and commercial property owners to obtain a no-money-down loan for energy efficiency improvements from a city or county and pay it back over time through their tax bills. Click [here](#) for a list of participating California counties and cities.

Related: [Silicon Valley businesses hope to see green in new California loan program](#)

[Study: LEED - CI increases productivity](#)

Facilities Net - May 17

A 2009 Michigan State study "[Life Cycle Cost Analysis of Occupant Well-being and Productivity in LEED Offices](#)," found occupants of LEED-DI space missed less work and performed nearly 39 more hours per person annually. Research indicates that LEED improves workplace effectiveness and return on investment.

[New building at Columbia Seminary is first in city to get LEED Gold](#)

Dexigner - May 17

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Editor

[Michael Kostecka](#)
Associate Editor

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The residence hall for Columbia Theological Seminary in Decatur, GA, earned LEED Gold and features a geothermal mechanical system that uses 50% less energy and saves replacement costs with a longer lifecycle.

[Fed has \\$72 billion for green buildings](#)

GreenerBuildings - Apr 30

The federal government has 30 existing programs worth \$72 billion to increase energy efficiency in commercial buildings and housing. See: [Using Executive Authority to Achieve Greener Buildings: A Guide for Policymakers to Enhance Sustainability and Efficiency in Multifamily Housing and Commercial Buildings](#).

[GBI launches pilot program](#)

Building Online - May 7

The Green Building Initiative (GBI) launched its American National Standard for Commercial Green Building pilot program. The program allows practitioners real-world experience with the new standards which are used to certify commercial buildings. Click [here](#) for program information.

[Energy Star's new national building competition](#)

Energy Boom - May 5

The EPA and Energy Star listed [14 contestants](#) out of 200 applicants for their National Building Competition. The 14 contestants will measure and track their building's monthly energy consumption using EPA's online energy tracking tool, [Portfolio Manager](#). Contestants will then make improvements to their building's energy performance and share their progress. The highest percentage-based reduction will win.

Related: [EPA's new Energy Star program](#)

[USGBC and GBC Italia to partner](#)

USGBC - May 5

The USGBC and Green Building Council Italia (GBCI) partnered to advance green building and reduce emissions in Italy. GBCI is the first European Union organization to implement LEED. The GBCI version of LEED utilizes local standards, codes, Italian-specific units, and alternative compliance paths to account for regional variances.

[GBC Australia's Green Star rating tool](#)

Green Building Council of Australia - May 6

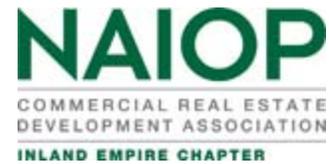
The Green Building Council of Australia (GBCA) released its Green Star rating tool for the design and construction of high-performance industrial buildings in every state across Australia.

[South Africa's green building effort](#)

PR Newswire - May 4

An appeal by the Minister of Public Works for a greener built environment may signify the beginning of a green building market in South Africa.

[Survey: Canadian investors willing to pay premiums for green buildings](#)



Toronto Sun - May 4

Colliers International's Global Sentiment Survey found that Canadian investors were greener than their U.S. counterparts, with 50% saying they were prepared to pay a premium for sustainable buildings compared with just 30% of U.S. investors.

[EPA's new program for energy efficiency](#)

Environmental Leader - May 6

[The Building Performance with Energy Star program](#) uses the EPA's Portfolio Manager to find energy efficiency opportunities through whole building assessments.

[Oregon adopts new green building codes](#)

KTVZ.COM News Sources - May 11

Effective July 1, commercial buildings in Oregon will be subject to the 2010 Oregon Energy Efficiency Specialty Code which is aimed at achieving a 15% reduction in energy usage for new construction and requires (1) increased insulation; (2) high performance windows; (3) automatic lighting controls; and (3) efficient mechanical systems.

[India -- global green building leader by 2015](#)

DC Correspondent - May 17

Green is the new buzzword in India where homes, offices, factories and consumer products proudly display "green tags." India's 365 million sq ft of green buildings rank second in the world behind the US. Indian Green Building Council (IGBC) predicts that India will be the global leader by 2015 with over 1 billion sq ft of green buildings.

[Solar is 'on fire' in California](#)

Energy Boom - May 11

Solar is growing rapidly in California, the largest solar energy market in the U.S. During the first quarter of 2010, applications for solar installations have almost equaled solar installations for all of 2009. The boom in manufacturing, coupled with cheaper raw materials and dwindling subsidy programs in Europe, have helped push prices down over the past year.

[Site promotes green building products](#)

Ecode - May 17

Ecode, the green-building resource site that won second place in the Business Plan Challenge, includes a green building product guide and a directory.

[Summit explores economics of green building](#)

Fort Worth Business Press - May 3

Experts at the Fort Worth Summit concluded that the benefits from energy efficient commercial buildings depend on the end user and projected population growth.

NOTABLE GREEN BUILDING PROJECTS

[San Francisco International Airport](#)

GreenerBuildings - May 6

The \$383 million renovation at San Francisco International Airport is designed to meet LEED Silver and features advanced lighting, plumbing, ventilation and building materials.

[First LEED-EB Gold convention center](#)

MeetingNews.com - May 5

The 515,000 square feet Virginia Beach Convention Center earned LEED-EB Gold and features advanced recycling, water conservation and energy efficiency.

[Suzlon's in India earns LEED Platinum](#)

Financial Express - May 5

Suzlon's new 41,000 sq meter corporate campus headquarter in Pune, India, earned LEED Platinum and is powered entirely by renewable energy. Suzlon is the world's third-largest wind turbine manufacturer.

[Phoenix Tower breaks Energy Star global record with eleven](#)

Hines - May 3

Hines' 629,000-square-foot Phoenix Tower earned its 11th consecutive Energy Star label -- more than any other building in the world.

[More schools going green](#)

The Examiner - May 9

More than 1,330 schools nationwide have applied for LEED certification, and 156 have earned LEED certification so far. The USGBC believes these sustainable schools on average cost 3% more than regular schools.

[PNC Bank adds nine more LEED certified buildings](#)

PNC - May 7

PNC has nine more LEED "Green Branchs", boosting PNC's total to 77 LEED bank buildings. PNC is the only bank permitted to use the term "Green Branch" based on the registered trademark granted by the U.S. Patent & Trademark Office.

[NAHB headquarters achieves sixth Energy Star designation](#)

NAHB - May 17

The National Association of Home Builders in Washington, D.C., has earned a sixth ENERGY STAR designation.

[Denver's LEED Platinum high rise](#)

Colorado and Denver News - May 13

The 500,000 square foot building at 1800 Larimer St. is the first high rise to earn LEED Platinum in Denver.

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