

**INITIAL STATEMENT OF REASONS
FOR
PROPOSED BUILDING STANDARDS
OF THE
DIVISION OF THE STATE ARCHITECT –STRUCTURAL SAFETY (DSA-SS)**

**REGARDING ADOPTION OF THE 2008 CALIFORNIA GREEN BUILDING STANDARDS CODE,
FOR USE IN THE CALIFORNIA CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 24, PART 11**

The Administrative Procedure Act requires that an Initial Statement of Reasons be available to the public upon request when rulemaking action is being undertaken. The following information required by the California Administrative Procedures Act (APA) pertains to this particular rulemaking action.

STATEMENT OF SPECIFIC PURPOSE AND RATIONALE FOR PROPOSED CHANGES

DSA proposes to adopt portions of the mandatory and voluntary measures of the 2008 edition of the California Green Building Standards Code for codification and effectiveness as the 2010 California Green Building Standards Code. DSA proposes this action in order to comply with state law requiring state agencies to propose adoption of the latest edition model codes within one year of the publication date.

California Green Building standards proposed by DSA-SS for adoption would be applicable to public elementary and secondary schools, and community colleges.

New amendments to existing 2008 edition of the California Green Building Standards Code are being proposed for adoption into the 2010 edition of the California Green Building Standards Code by DSA-SS or DSA-SS/CC (Division of the State Architect – Structural Safety/Community Colleges).

DSA proposes the codification of grid neutral educational facilities which is defined as a site that produces at least as much electricity as it uses in a year. Additional information can be found in the guidebook titled: "Grid Neutral: *Electrical Independence for California Schools and Community Colleges*". This can be found online at: <http://www.dsa.dgs.ca.gov/OtherProg/gridneutral.htm>

No amendments or revisions to existing administrative chapters 1 or 2 are being proposed for adoption into the 2010 California Green Building Standards Code by DSA-SS or DSA-SS/CC.

CHAPTER 5 – Nonresidential required measures

Section 5.106.4 Bicycle storage and changing rooms.

The proposal is to add an exception to this section so that only newly designed schools and community colleges are required to install changing/shower rooms. This makes the exception for existing facilities where added facilities with plumbing would be cost prohibitive.

Section A5.106.11 Building orientation and shading.

Editorial revisions are proposed for Section A5.106.11 to account for alternate methods of shading using solar shade structures which support the implementation of grid neutral at educational facilities. Additionally, an item is added to the list of alternatives addressing projects without funds for installing photovoltaics/solar panels on structures; this item would encourage planning the proper building orientation and structures to allow for the solar orientation and additional load bearing capabilities required to install these renewables.

APPENDIX CHAPTER 5 – Nonresidential voluntary measures

Section A202 Definitions

The proposal to add the definition of grid neutral is being made.

Section A5.204.5.1 Hardscape alternatives.

Editorial revisions are proposed for Section A5.204.5 .1to account for alternate methods of shading using solar shade structures which support the implementation of grid neutral at educational facilities

Section A211.2 Grid Neutral.

A method of calculating grid neutral sites for all types of nonresidential buildings, not just public school and community college buildings is being proposed as an addition to the Renewables Section A5.211. Calculations for both new construction and modernization for existing buildings is addressed. Additionally, subsections are added to allow for three tiers for Grid Neutral: 35% Grid Neutral, 75% Grid Neutral and Grid Neutral. These levels tie into the CALGREEN Tiers defined in Section A5.601.

Section A5.212.1 Elevators and escalators.

Editorial revisions are proposed for this Section to account for opportunities for saving electricity and use of elevators by making stairways easily available as an alternate method of getting to higher levels of a public school or community college facilities.

Section A5.507.5 Enhanced Acoustical control.

Section added to the appendix is proposed to address the requirements of a maximum and minimum requirement for acoustics in classrooms. Student learning suffers in acoustically poor environments. Excess noise from exterior sources, HVAC systems, or adjacent rooms can impede communications between students and teachers.

SECTION A5.601 - CALGREEN AND GRID NEUTRAL REACH STANDARDS

The proposal is to add Grid Neutral to the current reach standards specific to schools and community colleges defined as *CALGREEN* Merit; *CALGREEN* Excellence; and *CALGREEN* Grid Neutral reach standard. Currently, the reach standards set up by CBSC will require a set number of voluntary measures as a minimum to qualify for each tier. DSA-SS or DSA-SS/CC proposes to outline specifically the voluntary measures required to meet each tier for public schools and community colleges.

TECHNICAL, THEORETICAL, AND EMPIRICAL STUDY, REPORT, OR SIMILAR DOCUMENTS

None required, as Section 18928 of the Health & Safety Code mandates this proposed action.

CONSIDERATION OF REASONABLE ALTERNATIVES

The Division of the State Architect has not considered any reasonable alternatives to the proposed action.

REASONABLE ALTERNATIVES THE AGENCY HAS IDENTIFIED THAT WOULD LESSEN ANY ADVERSE IMPACT ON SMALL BUSINESS

The Division of the State Architect has not identified any reasonable alternatives to the proposed action, and no adverse impacts to small business are expected as a result of this proposed action. Only measures already required by the 2008 California Energy Code (Title 24, Part 6) and other law has been deemed mandatory as requested by the California Energy Commission. All other code measures are outlined in the appendix which is deemed as voluntary measures. DSA strived to follow the lead set by California Building Standards Commission in their revisions proposed for the 2010 code cycle.

FACTS, EVIDENCE, DOCUMENTS, TESTIMONY, OR OTHER EVIDENCE OF NO SIGNIFICANT ADVERSE ECONOMIC IMPACT ON BUSINESS.

The Division of the State Architect has no evidence indicating any potential significant adverse impact on business with regard to this proposed action.

DUPLICATION OR CONFLICTS WITH FEDERAL REGULATIONS

The regulations proposed for mandatory or voluntary adoptions do not duplicate or conflict with federal regulations.

