

California Department of General Services

“Green” Progress Report

Summer 2010



State Buildings

The Governor’s Green Building Executive Order (S-20-04) commits DGS and other agencies to reducing energy usage in state facilities 20 percent by 2015 through designing, building, operating & maintaining buildings that are models of energy efficiency and environmental responsibility. DGS is pursuing the U.S. Green Building Council’s LEED (Leadership in Energy & Environmental Design) certification for both new construction and existing buildings.

- 20 newly constructed or renovated buildings have achieved new construction (LEED-NC) certification from the U.S. Green Building Council. (7-Gold, 9-Silver, 4-Certified). Approximately 200 additional buildings are pursuing LEED-NC certification. *Most LEED-NC certified buildings are an average of 20 percent to 30 percent more energy efficient than minimum California energy code requirements. LEED-NC buildings also reduce water usage by an average of 20 percent to 40 percent, and divert more than 75 percent of their construction waste from landfills.*
- 22 buildings have achieved LEED for Existing Building (LEED-EB) certification for operations & maintenance. (2-Platinum, 11-Gold, 6-Silver, 3-Certified). 60 DGS-owned buildings are pursuing LEED-EB certification. *As part of earning LEED-EB certification in these buildings, DGS is implementing building operations and maintenance procedures across its building portfolio. These procedures will improve building operational efficiency, reduce waste, cut water use, and utilize environmentally- friendly cleaning products.*
- 43 low cost/no cost energy efficiency retro-commissioning projects completed or underway with verified electricity savings averaging 8.2 percent; projected natural gas savings of 16 percent.
- Since 2006, the state has awarded third-party solar power purchase agreements to provide solar photovoltaic energy at state-owned sites including California State University campuses.
- Evaluating third-party solar PPA model to include other renewables such as solar-thermal, fuel cells, wind, and cogeneration plants that capture previously lost heat from power generation to supply heating needs at state facilities.

- 100 of approximately 1,800 commercial leases (5,000 sq ft and larger) have attained ENERGY STAR ratings for energy efficiency.
- Built-to-suit leased buildings are pursuing LEED-NC Silver or higher certification.



State Purchasing

DGS is developing and applying standards and specifications for environmentally preferable purchasing that ensure procurement of goods and services that have a lesser or reduced negative impact on human health and the environment.

- "Green" standards and specifications implemented in contracts and requests for proposals for a wide variety of items including: disposable food services products, lamps and lightning, small-powered equipment, office supplies, office panel systems, paint, paper products, PC goods, pesticides, textiles, vehicles and bio-fuels.
- The "California Gold Sustainable Carpet Standard" for carpet used in state buildings is among the nation's most stringent when it comes to recycled content and end-of-life management.
- California standards for fluorescent lights used in state buildings require the lowest mercury content in the nation.
- Computers and monitors must meet EPEAT (Electronic Product Environmental Assessment Tool) standards for energy efficiency and environmental performance.
- Paper products on state contract are among the most environmentally-friendly in the nation; 100 percent post-consumer recycled content and free of chlorine bleach.
- Once awarded, a new statewide office supplies contract will mandate remanufactured ink cartridges and toner cartridges and will highlight "green items" on-contract.
- DGS maintains an online green buying "Best Practices Manual" that helps state buyers make best-value purchases that are good for the environment.



State Vehicles

DGS is making the state vehicle fleet "greener" and leaner by introducing clean technology to the fleet such as hybrid, alternative fuel,

fuel cell, and electric vehicles, and by employing a strategic fleet asset management system aimed at better managing the state's fleet and its associated carbon footprint.

- Utilizing a vehicle procurement process that emphasizes “lowest lifecycle cost methodology” to account for vehicle emissions and fuel economy over the expected lifecycle of a vehicle.
- Implementing a centralized vehicle fleet data management system to enable DGS to track vehicle location, fuel usage, and emissions data.
- Enabling increased use of alternative fuel vehicles by installing or identifying alternative fueling stations that state agencies can access for compressed natural gas and E85, a fuel mixture containing ethanol. It is now possible to drive a state flex-fuel vehicle from Sacramento to San Diego using E85 fuel.
- Reducing size of state fleet, and promoting the use of alternative fuel, hybrid and “best-of-class” vehicles, by executing strategic fleet management practices including an assessment of whether state vehicle usage and acquisition patterns conform to goals and objectives set by the governor, the Legislature and best practices.
- Replacing older, higher polluting, less fuel-efficient vehicles with newer, low- and ultra-low emission vehicles.
- Encouraging other state agencies to “travel green” by reducing business trips in favor of videoconferencing and Webcasting, promoting increased use of alternative transit, carpooling, telework.

For additional information, please visit: www.green.ca.gov