



**US Army Corps  
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# ENGINEERING AND CONSTRUCTION BULLETIN

No. 2016-30

Issuing Office: CECW-CE

Issued: 21 Dec 16

Expires: 21 Dec 18

**SUBJECT:** Air Force Sustainability Guidance for Third-Party Certification.

**CATEGORY:** Directive and Guidance.

## 1. References:

- a. Unified Facilities Criteria 1-200-02, High Performance and Sustainable Building Requirements, 1 December 2016
- b. Briefing Slides, Air Force Civil Engineer Center LEAP Meeting, 10 November 2016
- c. E-mail, Chief, Technical Services Division, Facilities Engineering Directorate, Air Force Civil Engineer Center, 1 December 2016

2. **Purpose:** The purpose of this ECB is to update the sustainability guidance for third-party certification of Air Force (AF) projects for which USACE is the Design and Construction Agent.

3. **Applicability:** This guidance applies to all construction projects required to achieve third-party certification in accordance with Unified Facilities Criteria (UFC) 1-200-02 (Reference a), Table 1-1, on permanent Active AF Installations located in the United States (including Alaska and Hawaii) and its territories. This guidance also applies to overseas AF construction projects to the greatest extent practical considering mission objectives and Host Nation agreements.

4. **Policy.** As briefed at the Air Force Civil Engineer Center LEAP Meeting (Reference b) and confirmed by e-mail (Reference c) effective immediately, the AF is discontinuing use of Leadership in Energy & Environmental Design (LEED) for third-party certification. New AF projects will register for the DoD specific Federal High Performance and Sustainable Building Guiding Principles Compliance (GPC) third-party certification using either the US Green Building Council (USGBC) or Green Building Initiative (GBI).

## 5. Implementing Guidance.

- a. All AF projects will continue to meet the requirements of UFC 1-200-02, High Performance and Sustainable Buildings.
- b. Projects already registered under LEED version 2009 will continue and achieve LEED Silver certification. No new AF projects will register for LEED version 4 certification.
- c. All new AF projects, not previously registered under LEED version 2009 by the registration close date of 31 October 2016, will register with USGBC or GBI for DoD specific GPC certification, regardless of funding source, for the following design and construction

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activities occurring on permanent Active AF Installations in the United States and its territories (in accordance with the current UFC 1-200-02, Table 1-1, updated 1 December 2016):

(1) All new buildings larger than 5,000 SF, with construction cost greater than \$3M.

(2) All renovations to an existing building greater than 5,000 SF, with construction cost greater than \$3M and 50% Estimated Replacement Cost (ERC).

d. Guidance documents and the AF Sustainability Requirements Scoresheet will be updated for this new policy and can be found at: <http://www.wbdg.org/ffc/af-afcec/policies-and-guidance-af-design-and-construction>

6. **Update.** The requirement as described above will be included in the next update of the MILCON AF Annex of the Enterprise Program Management Plan (EPgMP).

7. **Points of Contact.** HQUSACE points of contact for this ECB are Kelli Polzin, CECW-CE, (202) 761-8900 and Jane Smith, CEMP-ID, (202)-761-5771.

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Encl.

Attachment A - Briefing Slides, Air Force Civil Engineer Center LEAP Meeting  
Attachment B - E-mail, Chief, Technical Services Division, Facilities Engineering Directorate,  
Air Force Civil Engineer Center



**U.S. AIR FORCE**

## **New AF Sustainability Policy** *Third-Party Certification Requirements*

- **Effective immediately the AF is discontinuing use of LEED**
  - New projects will register for Guiding Principles Compliance (GPC) certification using either the US Green Building Council (USGBC) or Green Building Initiative (GBI) GPC certification
  - Projects already registered under LEED 2009 shall continue with the certification and achieve LEED Silver certification
  - No new AF projects will register for LEED v4 certification
- **All AF projects will continue to meet the requirements of UFC 1-200-02, *High Performance and Sustainable Building Requirements***
- **USGBC and GBI will have DoD specific GPC certification processes than align directly with both the current version of UFC 1-200-02 and the revision, which is in final coordination**

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**U.S. AIR FORCE**

## **New AF Sustainability Policy** *Third-Party Certification Requirements*

- **GPC certification is required for the following construction activities regardless of funding source:**
  - All new buildings larger than 5,000 sf with construction costs greater than \$3M
  - All renovations to an existing building greater than 5000 sf, construction costs greater than \$3M, and greater than 50% ERC
  - To the extent practical for:
    - Buildings not on AF installations in the United States and its territories
    - Buildings supporting contingency operations
    - Non-permanent buildings
    - Projects marked as "Austere" on the DD Form 1391
- **Guidance documents and the AF Sustainability Requirements Scoresheet can be found at:**  
[http://www.wbdg.org/ccb/browse\\_cat.php?c=265](http://www.wbdg.org/ccb/browse_cat.php?c=265)

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**Attachment B - E-mail, Chief, Technical Services Division, Facilities Engineering Directorate,  
Air Force Civil Engineer Center**

**From:** [MESICK, GENE F GS-15 USAF HAF AFCEC/CFT](#)  
**To:** [Smith, Jane A CIV USARMY CFHQ \(US\)](#); [Lea, George O Jr CIV USARMY USACE \(US\)](#); [KRAYNAK, MARK T GS-15 USN NAVFACHO \(EOC\) OPS](#)  
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**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] New Air Force Policy on High Performance and Sustainable Buildings Guiding Principles (HPSB GP)  
**Date:** Thursday, December 01, 2016 11:01:04 AM

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Jane/George/Mark, The Air Force has instituted a new sustainability policy effective immediately. The Air Force will transition from LEED Silver certification to third-party certification of compliance with the Federal HPSB GP requirements, per the revised UFC 1-200-02 "High Performance and Sustainable Building Requirements", dated 1 Dec 2016. This change is an opportunity to eliminate confusion about project sustainability goals, to focus on achieving the Federal requirements, and to align with the priorities and energy strategies of the Air Force.

Projects already registered for certification under LEED 2009 will continue with that process, with a goal of achieving LEED Silver certification. All new project design starts that have not yet registered for LEED certification will register for Guiding Principles Compliance certification only, using either USGBC or the Green Building Initiative (GBI) rating systems. Specific guidance on registration and the new scoresheet will be released shortly.

If you have questions please contact Ms. Paula Shaw at [paula.shaw@us.af.mil](mailto:paula.shaw@us.af.mil), 210-395-8121.

Thanks! Gene

//SIGNED//

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