



INFORMATION

To: All LEED-CS Projects Registered Prior to April 24, 2009

RE: LEED-CS v2.0 amended documentation requirements

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As a result of a LEED Credit Interpretation Request to clarify the requirements of LEED-CS v2.0 Energy and Atmosphere Credit 1, Optimize Energy Performance, the documentation requirements for demonstrating point achievement of EAc1 have been updated. Project teams are now required to document energy cost savings associated with LEED-CS v2.0 projects as both a percentage of core and shell energy cost and as a percentage of whole building energy cost. A new [Excel spreadsheet tool](#) provides the updated reporting methodology and is a submittal requirement for LEED-CS v2.0 EAc1. The spreadsheet contains an integrated calculator which calculates whole building savings based on the scope of developer control and the modeled savings in core and shell energy cost. This documentation requirement is in effect immediately.

This amended documentation requirement has been established to resolve confusion over the EAc1 calculation methodology for LEED-CS v2.0 projects. During the transition from pilot rating system to ballot draft, the LEED-CS Rating System underwent numerous technical updates and modifications. One of these modifications was a change in the EAc1 reference standard from ASHRAE 90.1-1999 to ASHRAE 90.1-2004. This change in reference standard shifted the basis of EAc1 energy cost savings calculations from the 90.1-1999, Section 11, Energy Cost Budget (ECB) Method to the 90.1-2004, Appendix G, Performance Rating Method (PRM). As a result, there has been confusion in the market as to LEED's disposition relative to exclusion ("post processing") of non-core and shell energy cost in both Design and Baseline Building Performance numbers from the Percentage Improvement calculation on page 213 of the LEED-CS v2.0 Reference Guide (first edition, June 2006). This exclusion of non-core and shell energy costs is permitted by the ECB method but prohibited by the PRM. The purpose of the amended documentation requirements is to resolve this clarification by requiring project teams to transparently represent LEED-CS project achievement on both a project scope (core and shell) basis and on a whole building basis. Exclusion of non-core and shell energy cost ("post processing") from Percentage Improvement calculations is allowed but project teams are required to present both whole building and CS scope energy cost savings when discussing project achievements