

Building 750 Is LEED® Silver Certified



Building 750 – Reduced indoor water use 43%; reduced outdoor water use 79%; reduced annual energy consumption 25%.

Building 750 at Sandia National Laboratories (SNL) in New Mexico is Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Silver certified in the LEED for Existing Buildings: Operations & Maintenance™ rating system. This system has the following six credit categories:

Innovation in Operations

Building 750 earned credit in this category for “exemplary performance” in purchasing computers certified with the Electronic Product Environmental Assessment Tool (EPEAT®). The tool was developed using a grant from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and is managed by the Green Electronics Council.

The greenhouse gases saved by building occupants who participated in the following Health, Benefits, and Employee Services programs were calculated through site analysis:

- Exercise classes
- Health screening
- Nutritional counseling

Water Efficiency

Water efficiency is a high priority for Building 750 because of its location in the high-desert Southwest. Innovative approaches in indoor and outdoor water conservation were recognized. Retrocommissioning of the building reduced annual water use by nearly 40 percent.

Sustainable Sites

Building 750 received credit in the Sustainable Sites category for the following beneficial site-management practices:

- Landscaping with tools that do not use energy
- Washing windows with deionized water
- Regularly washing and maintaining a white roof

In addition, many building occupants commute to work using the following means:

- Bicycles and buses
- Carpooling
- Telecommuting

The 9/80 work schedules of many building occupants receives credit in this category, too.

Other Green Initiatives

- Protecting the natural state of Tijeras Arroyo
- Reducing emitted building light at night by installing occupancy sensors



Biking to and from Building 750 reduces greenhouse gases.

Indoor Environmental Quality

The award-winning Custodial Services department of the Facilities Management and Operations Center developed and documented campus-wide “green cleaning” procedures as part of this category. Custodial Services consistently receives outstanding audit scores in the following areas:

- Green products, materials, and equipment
- Waste-reduction and dilution systems
- Employee training and staffing

Standard construction specifications ensure indoor air quality, and building occupants can control lighting levels in their spaces.

Energy & Atmosphere

Energy efficiency improved 25 percent during the LEED period of performance (October 1 through December 31, 2009), resulting in annual savings of almost \$5,000 and reducing 33 metric tons of carbon dioxide (CO₂).

Retrocommissioning

- Repaired and upgraded building systems
- Installed occupancy sensors for lighting

Materials & Resources

To meet LEED requirements, solid waste management and sustainable purchasing practices and programs for Building 750 were tracked with guidance documents or policies:

- Building occupants purchased almost 100 percent of ongoing consumables (such as paper products and toner) with recycled content during the period of performance.
- Because of SNL’s standard purchasing specifications, more than 80 percent of durable goods (such as computers and appliances) were “green.”

The LEED® green building certification program is the nationally accepted benchmark for the design, construction, and operation of green buildings.

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- CDs
- Batteries
- Aluminum
- Plastic
- Paper
- Styrofoam
- Cardboard
- Chipboard

Occupants diverted or recycled more than half of building waste.

In addition to LEED certification, Building 750 earned EPA ENERGY STAR® recognition for excellent energy performance. ENERGY STAR scoring has a scale of 1 to 100, with 100 being the most efficient building compared to similar buildings in similar climates. Building 750 achieved a score of 86.

Building 750 did not need renovations or major modifications. Improving the green aspects of the building involved documenting and improving existing operating procedures and practices and working with building occupants.

Contributing SNL Centers

Facilities Management and Operations Center (4800)
ES&H and Emergency Management Center (4100)

For more information, please call

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