



**Topic: Introduction to Sustainability**

**Date of Presentation: February 20, 2014**

**Link to Series Information: [CES Historical Topics](#)**

**Question #1:** In order to make the needed changes to an existing facility obviously takes funding. Are there supplemental funds available to support this effort?

**A:** Typically repair and alteration (R&A) projects at a GSA owned and operated facility can be funded through the normal repair and alteration process (BA54). These R&A projects typically have elements that support sustainability such as energy and water projects.

**Question #2:** Is there a GSA report that shows all of the buildings that are LEED certified?

**A:** As of February 2014, GSA has 143 facilities covering both owned and leased properties that have obtained LEED certifications (Platinum, Gold, Silver, etc.).

GSA has concluded that Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED®) remains the most credible third-party green building certification systems to help it evaluate building performance against federal statutory and executive order green building requirements.

<http://www.gsa.gov/portal/category/25999>

LEED certified projects:

<http://www.gsa.gov/portal/category/26002>

**Question #3:** As a tenant of GSA's office space, if we help to make the building/office space more sustainable, will we achieve any direct cost savings?

**A:** Any costs savings from operating GSA facilities more efficiently allows GSA to continue to make improvements to its buildings which benefit tenant agencies. Currently there is no mechanism for cost savings to be returned directly to tenant agencies.

**Question 4:** How close are we to energy and water reduction goals as of 2013?

**A:** For FY 2012 GSA was green on the OMB scorecard for sustainability and energy. GSA met both its energy and water reduction goals for FY2012. GSA's reduction in energy intensity goal was 21% and GSA achieved a reduction of 24.5%. Our potable water reduction goal was 10% and GSA achieved a reduction of 19.2%. Even though it has not been finalized yet, GSA is also on track to meet both its water and energy reduction goals for FY2013.

## Client Enrichment Series – Q & A

---

**Question #5:** Is there language in the Request for Lease Proposal (RLP) for the meeting the minimal LEED rating requirements?

A: Yes, within GSA's standard Request for Lease Proposal (RLP) there are specific LEED requirements when pursuing a LEED rating for a lease location and/or for a lease construction project.

**Question #6:** Are the Sustainability Guiding Principles included in the boilerplate GSA lease?

A: There are no specific references to the Guiding Principles in the standard GSA's standard Request for Lease Proposal (RLP). But there are a number of green lease clauses, which when complied with as appropriate for a specific lease, demonstrate that the lease is in compliance with the Guiding Principles.