

[CEQ News]

GreenGov Spotlight Communities Final Report

Starting in early 2013, CEQ launched [Spotlight Communities](#), a GreenGov initiative focused on Federal agencies' regional projects that leverage resources to achieve the goals of the President's EO 13514. Throughout the year, the projects were highlighted through Webinars, presentations, and more to demonstrate Federal agencies leading by example by cutting costs and increasing efficiencies in the areas of energy and sustainability. This month, CEQ released a [final report](#) to include the projects results, including lessons learned, outcomes and how each will continue in the future.

Announcements and Upcoming Events

- The Federal Guiding Principles Checklist in Energy Star Portfolio Manager [webcasts](#) will teach Federal energy and sustainability professionals how to use the Energy Star measurement and tracking tool, Portfolio Manager, to ensure compliance with the Guiding Principles for High Performance Sustainable Buildings required by Executive Orders 13423 and 13514.
- The Federal Utility Partnership Working Group fosters communication between Federal agencies, specific sites and utilities to implement cost-effective energy efficiency and water conservation projects. The Group is hosting a [Webinar](#) January 14-15 that will fulfill federally mandated training requirements.
- The 2014 Air Conditioning, Heating and Refrigeration [Expo](#) will take place January 21-23 in New York City. The Expo will focus on greater energy efficiency, greener products and sustainable technologies for new products and innovations.
- FEMP launched an Energy Savings Performance Contracting on-demand training [course](#).
- #ActOnClimate
- Don't forget to check out [what's new](#) on FedCenter.gov.

[News]

Winners of the 2013 Better Buildings Federal Award Competition Announced

On Dec. 17, The Energy Department [announced](#) that the GSA's United States Court House in Wichita, Kansas was the winner of the 2013 Better Buildings Federal Award. The Award challenges agencies to achieve the greatest reduction in annual energy intensity, or energy consumed per gross square foot. This year's winner cut its energy intensity by 20 percent and saved over \$40,000 in utility costs in the 12 month competition period.

Energy Department Invests \$13 Million in U.S. Solar Manufacturing

On Dec. 11, DOE announced more than \$13 million in [funding](#) for five projects to strengthen domestic solar manufacturing and speed commercialization of efficient, affordable photovoltaic and concentrating solar power technologies. As part of the Energy Department's SunShot Initiative, these awards will help lower the cost of solar electricity, support a growing U.S. solar workforce, and increase U.S. competitiveness in the global clean energy market.

DOE Announces \$150 Million in U.S. Clean Energy Manufacturing Tax Credits

On Dec. 12, DOE announced \$150 million in clean energy [tax credits](#) to build U.S. capabilities in clean energy manufacturing. The credits will go toward investments in domestic manufacturing equipment by 12 businesses. Through the Advanced Energy Manufacturing Tax Credit program (48C Program), these awards will help create thousands of jobs across the country and increase U.S. competitiveness in the global clean energy market.

Marines Corps Recruit Depot Wins Awards for Sustainability Efforts

The Marine Corps Recruit Depot in San Diego earned two awards last year, CEQ's [GreenGov award](#) in the "Building the Future" category and DOE's Federal Energy and Water Management Better Buildings award. Last year, the base offset nearly one-third of its electricity from the grid with its solar panels, saving \$725,000. About 1.9 MW is scattered around the base, on buildings, carports and other structures.