**U.S. Department of Energy**

**GreenBuy Award Program – Fiscal Year 2019**

Under the GreenBuy Award Program, U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) sites receive recognition for purchasing programs that obtain sustainable products, save energy, conserve water, and reduce negative health and environmental impact. Sites that choose to participate in this voluntary program have the option to go beyond meeting all sustainable acquisition requirements and demonstrate leadership by working toward a GreenBuy Award.

The GreenBuy Award Program is based on a Priority Products List, which identifies a set of products with leadership-level sustainability goals that DOE established to help incentivize sustainable acquisition efforts. The sustainability goals are based on evaluations of environmental performance standards, ecolabels, and input from DOE sites as well as external organizations. The goals often go beyond the Federal requirements (see “Federal Sustainable Acquisition Requirements” section below), but do not preclude responsibility for meeting the Federal sustainable acquisition requirements.

This document describes the DOE GreenBuy Award Program. Attachment 1 describes how sites choosing to participate can nominate themselves for an award. Attachment 2 contains the Priority Products List and purchasing goals. Attachment 3 contains resource information pertaining to the Priority Products List and is a Verification Guide for Sustainable Products that was developed jointly by DOE and the General Services Administration (GSA). The Verification Guide outlines how to ensure compliance with a contract’s sustainability goals and requirements and should be used by purchasing organizations to justify GreenBuy Award nominations. All acronyms and abbreviations can be found in the Verification Guide as well. GSA has the Verification Guide posted online.[[1]](#footnote-1)

**Federal Sustainable Acquisition Requirements**

Federal policy requires all agencies to purchase environmentally preferable products and services that use less energy and water, reduce or eliminate waste at the source, promote the use of nontoxic or less toxic substances, implement conservation techniques, and reuse materials rather than put them into the waste stream. The benefits of sustainable acquisition include:

* Improved employee health and performance
* Reduced greenhouse gas emissions and conserves resources
* Reduced maintenance costs
* Reduced waste management costs
* Support of green building requirements

To achieve these benefits, the Federal government has established requirements[[2]](#footnote-2) for the preferential purchase of products (often referred to as designated products) that are:

* Energy efficient - ENERGY STAR certified or meet Federal Energy Management Program (FEMP) energy efficiency and low standby power requirements
* Fuel efficient – SmartWay certified transport partners
* Water efficient – WaterSense labeled
* Made from biobased content – BioPreferred designated
* Made from recycled-content – Comprehensive Procurement Guideline designated
* Non-ozone depleting – Significant New Alternatives Policy (SNAP) alternative
* Non-toxic or less-toxic than conventional alternatives – Safer Choice certified

See Attachment 3 for information on how to work with suppliers, vendors, and contractors to ensure compliance with Federal requirements.

GSA has a Green Procurement Compilation (GPC) tool (<https://sftool.gov/greenprocurement>) to facilitate the procurement of the designated products. This tool enables Federal purchasers to quickly identify the designated products and associated guidance to support green purchasing decisions. In addition, the tool can also help with verifying sustainable attributes of a product (see Attachment 3).

**DOE Priority Products and GreenBuy Awards Program**

The DOE GreenBuy program is based on the Priority Products List, a compilation of product types, in seven categories, with the biggest potential environmental, social, and economic impact.

To be considered for GreenBuy Awards, DOE sites can annually nominate themselves by declaring which Priority Product goals were met. DOE sites must report either: 1) the percent of the product purchased and goal(s) met, or 2) the product goals adopted as a minimum procurement requirement. In addition, DOE sites need to provide an explanation of the validation methods used. Under the category of “Other,” DOE sites may nominate additional products for consideration that are equivalent to those specified in the Priority Products list.

As a Federal purchaser, DOE is always required to purchase designated products but may make exceptions if the required products do not meet cost, availability, or performance needs. Because the GreenBuy Program is voluntary, however, no exceptions are allowed. Therefore, varying percents are specified for the products purchased to achieve the GreenBuy Award. These percents pertain to the number of products purchased and are not to be confused with the percent of a specific attribute (recycled content, for example) that a product should contain.

**GreenBuy Award Program**

DOE sites can qualify for GreenBuy Awards at three levels —Gold, Silver, or Bronze— by meeting goals of product types in the Sustainable Product List:

* Gold: At least 9 products covering at least 5 product categories
* Silver: At least 6 products covering at least 3 product categories
* Bronze: At least 4 products covering at least 2 product categories

The awards become progressively more challenging over time, encouraging participants to transition to more and more sustainable products. Awardees will be recognized for the same or higher level in subsequent years but not a lower level. While the same award level may be recognized in consecutive years, the stipulations are:

* Gold level: 3 product types may be repeated from previous years
* Silver level: 1 product type may be repeated from previous years
* Bronze level: 0 product types may be repeated from previous years

Sites that win GreenBuy Gold multiple times are eligible for the following awards:

* Prime: for earning Gold three times
* Superior: for earning Gold five times
* Elite: for earning Gold ten times

**Priority Products List**

The list (see Attachment 2) is a living document that is regularly updated based on feedback from DOE sites, expert reviewers, and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s (EPA) *Recommendations of Specifications, Standards, and Ecolabels[[3]](#footnote-3)*. The basis for which products are on the list and which goals are set is described in “History and Background on the Development of the U.S. Department of Energy’s GreenBuy Awards Program and Priority Products List Initiated Fiscal Year (FY) 2010”[[4]](#footnote-4).

Some of the benefits of using the Priority Products List include:

* Easing the process for identifying sustainable products for purchase
* Supporting local Site Sustainability Plans and Environmental Management Systems as well as DOE’s Strategic Sustainability Performance Plan, and the Federal Green Challenge
* Offering specifications to include in contracts in the following product categories:
* Cafeteria
* Construction
* Custodial
* Electronics
* Grounds/Landscaping
* Office
* Operations/Fleet/Shipping/Shop

**Participation in the GreenBuy Award Program**

Participants in the GreenBuy Award Program nominate themselves by reporting the sustainable product goals met. Note that participation in the GreenBuy Award Program is strictly voluntary and that participation in this Program does not replace any sustainability-related reporting requirements. The GreenBuy Award Program is structured to enhance a site’s ability to meet or exceed related sustainability goals.

**Attachment 1: Nomination Process**

DOE sites choosing to participate in the GreenBuy Award Program start by using the Priority Products List (Attachment 2). Nominees must document that their purchases meet the minimum sustainability goals within the Priority Products List, which in many cases go beyond basic Federal requirements (noted as “R” for “required” in the list of products). Where the list includes optional stretch goals (noted as “R+” for exceeding the requirement) these can be used to help inform sustainable acquisition voluntary leadership efforts.

To successfully win an award, nominees either track their purchases or confirm adoption of minimum procurement requirements:

* Track Purchases - For each product type purchased, calculate the percentage that met the minimum sustainability goals for the FY. For example, if 50 Light Emitting Diode (LED) lights were purchased in the FY and 48 were either ENERGY STAR certified or FEMP qualified, then the minimum sustainability goal of 95 percent for LED lighting was met.
* Confirm Adoption of Minimum Procurement Requirements - Confirm that minimum procurement requirements address the goals.
* Use of other standards - Nominate the use of other certifications or standards that are as effective as the ones specified in the Priority Products List, in the field marked “other.”
* Procurement Sustainability Goals - Throughout the FY, nominees should be verifying that products received/accepted comply with the sustainability goals specified in their procurements. Attachment 3 is a joint GSA-DOE guide to assist with the verification process. Verifying that products received meet the specifications enumerated in a contract or purchasing agreement is good business practice.
* Submit Nomination - Use the FedCenter GreenBuy Award nomination website to submit nominations (<https://www.fedcenter.gov/assistance/fedrpts/greenbuy/index.cfm>?).

Nominees can tailor their use of the Priority Products List to meet their specific circumstances, allowing them to select categories and products of most value, such as those that align with their sustainability plan goals. Nominees may also report additional green products and are encouraged to nominate new candidates for the list. This list may also be used to assist with engaging vendors to supply more sustainable products and to help inform contract or product specification requirements.

**Annual Timeline**

* Oct 1–Dec 31: DOE site inputs data to the GreenBuy Award nomination website on

FedCenter (<https://www.fedcenter.gov/assistance/fedrpts/greenbuy/index.cfm>?)

* Jan 7: DOE-HQ completes quality analysis of the data
* Jan 8-14: DOE approving authority reviews and approves the nomination
* Jan 15: FedCenter GreenBuy Award nomination website closes
* 4th week in Jan: DOE announces the GreenBuy Award winners

**Attachment 2: Priority Products List**

The following is a list of the Priority Products (organized by category) and purchasing goals to be met to qualify for GreenBuy Award recognition. These goals are in support of, and sometimes in addition to, the designated product requirements (see the “Federal Sustainable Acquisition Requirements” section).

The Priority Products list does not reflect all products with Sustainable Acquisition requirements. It is instead a list of products and goals that further incentivize and/or exceed the requirements via the award program. For example, DOE sites are already successfully purchasing EPEAT registered desktops and laptops, therefore, they do not need to be included on the Priority Products list. It is expected all GreenBuy Award nominees are in compliance with all Sustainable Acquisition requirements.

**New Priority Products in Fiscal Year (FY) 2019**

The general objective is to keep the Priority Products List goals stable for as long as possible, allowing nominees to plan ahead, but the list also needs to keep goals current with the marketplace, Federal requirements, and nominees’ needs. Following are changes for FY 2019:

Cafeteria

* In-Cafeteria Service: Additional option of “Biobased certified (minimum 58%)
* Take-Out Service: Two addition options
	+ Follow Center for Environmental Health guidelines to safer foodware
	+ Contract ensures all materials supplied are either recyclable or compostable

Construction

* Toilets – Commercial: New item with goal of WaterSense labeled

Grounds/Landscaping

* Dust Suppressant: Additional option of “Safer Choice”
* Vegetation: Replace xeriscape goal with “WaterSense native plants”

Other

* Human Rights Impacts in IT Procurements: New item

Notes:

* The standards referenced and their abbreviations are explained in Attachment 3.
* *Italicized* goals are ones for which few products have been certified or identified in the marketplace.
* Symbols/terminology key:

|  |
| --- |
| % Percent of purchases required for each product category, not to be confused with the percent of a specific attribute (recycled content, for example). While Federal requirements are 100% of purchases, they allow for the exceptions of cost, availability, and performance. The GreenBuy Award Program allows for no exceptions, and therefore, may reflect percentages lower than 100%.\* Televisions are defined as anything with an independent tuner/receiver that is capable of displaying audiovisual signals from various sources.R Required – Those products Federal agencies are required to give preference to which have been designated by the U.S. Department of Agriculture for biobased products, DOE for FEMP products, EPA for ENERGY STAR certified, EPEAT, Safer Choice, SmartWay, SNAP, recycled content, and WaterSense products. For the requirements (such as percent of post-consumer recycled content), see the Green Procurement Compilation (<http://www.sftool.gov/GreenProcurement>).R+ Required product but the requirement is more than designated because products are readily available in the marketplace with the increased attribute. For example, the required recycled content for toilet tissue is a minimum of 20% post-consumer recycled content. However, toilet tissue with 80% post-consumer recycled content is readily available on the market.HBCD Hexabromocyclododecane (brominated flame retardant)VOC Volatile organic compound |

**Priority Products List**

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| --- | --- |
| Product Type | Priority Product Minimum Sustainable Goals |

**CAFETERIA**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Commercial Food Service Equipment | Goal: 95% of purchases meet one or more of the following * R ENERGY STAR Certified
* R FEMP Qualified if water-cooled ice machines
* R WaterSense Labeled if pre-rinse spray valves
 |
| Food | Goal: 50% of purchases meet one or more of the following* Produced locally (100-mile radius)
* USDA Organic
* NPS Healthy Food Evaluation
* Fair Trade Certified
* Free of Non-Therapeutic Antibiotics if meat

Or be an EPA Food Recovery Challenge Participant  |
| In-Cafeteria Service: Containers,Cutlery, Dishware,Dishwasher Detergent | Goal: 100% of new purchases meet all of the following * Durable (Reusable) Containers, Cutlery, Dishware
* R ENERGY STAR Certified Dishwasher
* One or more of the following commercial dishwasher detergent goals:
* R Biobased certified (minimum 58%)
* Safer Choice
* UL 2759
* *Cradle2Cradle Certified Gold or Higher*
* *Green Seal 53*
 |
| Take-Out Service: Containers, Cutlery, Dishware | Goal: 75% of purchases meet one or more of the following* R Biobased certified (minimum 48% cutlery, 72% containers/ dishware), BPI certified compostable or on Cedar Grove approved list (provided composting available), and no perfluorinated chemicals added
* CEH
* Post-consumer recycled content (minimum 20%) paper or PET plastic
* Contract ensures all materials are either recyclable or compostable
 |

**CONSTRUCTION**

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| Adhesives | Goal: 75% of purchases meet one or more of the following * Cradle2Cradle Gold Level (floor adhesives only)
* Green Seal GS-36
* SCS Indoor Advantage Gold
* UL 2762
* UL 2818 GREENGUARD Gold
* R SNAP
 |
| Boilers - Commercial | Goal: 95% of purchases meet the following* R FEMP Qualified
 |
| Carpet - Commercial | Goal: No antimicrobials or perfluorinated stain resistant chemicals and 95% of purchases meet one or more of the following* ANSI Platinum NSF-140 (CRI Green Label Plus)
* Cradle2Cradle Silver Level
* GECA
* 25% post-consumer recycled content + take back in contract for new carpet
* R+ Biobased certified (minimum 20%) + take back in contract for new carpet
 |
| Ceiling Tile - Acoustical | Goal: No antimicrobials or flame retardants and 95% of purchases meet one or more of the following* CA 01350
* Cradle2Cradle Bronze Level
* UL 2818 GREENGUARD Gold
* 20% recycled content and take back requirement in contract for new ceiling tile
* R Biobased certified (minimum 37%)
 |
| Central Air Conditioners | Goal: 95% of purchases meet the following* R ENERGY STAR Certified
 |
| Chillers – Air Cooled or Water Cooled | Goal: 95% of purchases meet the following* R FEMP Qualified
 |
| Concrete  | Goal: 75% of purchases meet one or more of the following* Pervious
* R+ 25% Fly Ash Recycled Content
* R+ 25% Blast Furnace Slag Recycled Content
 |
| Fiberboard,Gypsum Panels, Wallboard | Goal: 75% of purchases meet one or more of the following* No mercury
* SCS Indoor Advantage Gold
* UL 2818 GREENGUARD Gold
* R Biobased certified (minimum 55%)
* R Recycled content
 |
| Flooring | Goal: 75% of purchases meet one or more of the following* Cradle2Cradle Silver Level
* GECA
* R Recycled content
* R Biobased certified (minimum 91%)
* No wax flooring
 |
| Heat Pumps – Air or Ground Source | Goal: 95% of purchases meet the following* R ENERGY STAR Certified
 |
| Insulation | Goal: In addition to ENERGY STAR Certified, 75% of purchases meet one or more of the followingBatt (steel frame with metal stud wall) * No VOCs or fiberglass (LEED recommends cotton)
* R Recycled content
* *SCS* *Indoor Advantage Gold* excluding fiberglass insulation
* *UL 2818 GREENGUARD Gold* excluding fiberglass insulation

Foam (preinsulated metal siding)* UL 2818 GREENGUARD Gold
* R+ Biobased certified (minimum 23%)

Foam Board Rigid (roof & concrete buildings)* No HBCDs or VOCs
* R Recycled content
* *SCS*  *Indoor Advantage Gold*
 |
| Lighting: LED Commercial  | Goal: 95% of purchases meet one or more of the following* R ENERGY STAR Certified
* R FEMP Qualified (DesignLights Consortium Certified)
 |
| Paint – Interior Latex | Goal: 75% of purchases meet one or more of the following* Cradle2Cradle Silver Level
* Green Seal GS-43 (recycled)
* MPI Extreme Green
* R+ 50% recovered material and maximum of 50 grams/liter VOCs
* R Biobased certified (minimum 20%)
 |
| Roof Coating | Goal: 75% of purchases meet one or more of the following* No VOCs
* R+ Biobased certified (minimum 50%)
* R ENERGY STAR
 |
| Toilets - Commercial | Goal: 75% of purchases meet the following* WaterSense labeled
 |
| Urinals | Goal: 75% of purchases meet one or more of the following* Waterless urinal
* WaterSense labeled for flushing urinals
 |
| Water Heater | Goal: 90% of purchases meet one or more of the followingHeat pump* R ENERGY STAR Certified

Storage Tank- Gas Commercial* R ENERGY STAR Certified

Tankless* R ENERGY STAR Certified
 |

**CUSTODIAL**

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| --- | --- |
| Cleaners: Carpet, Glass, Hand, Multipurpose | Goal: In addition to biobased content, 95% of purchases meet one or more of the following* Cradle2Cradle Silver Level
* Green Seal GS-37, 41
* Safer Choice
* UL 2759, 2784, 2795
* Foam (hand cleaners only)
 |
| Disinfectants | Goal: 100% of practices and purchases meet all of the following* Only used where required as defined in site disinfection plan
* RPN or Safer Choice disinfectant specifications

 (To avoid bacteria becoming antibiotic resistant, use disinfectants only if required)  |
| Floor Care  | Goal: In addition to 75% biobased content, 95% of purchases meet one or more of the following* Green Seal GS-40
* Safer Choice
* UL 2777
 |
| Tissue - Toilet | Goal: 95% of purchases meet one or more of the following* Green Seal GS-01
* UL 175 + process chlorine-free
* R+ 80% PC recycled content + process chlorine-free
 |
| Towels/Hand Drying | Goal: 95% of purchases meet one or more of the following* Electric hand dryers in restrooms
* Green Seal GS-01 for paper towels
* R+ 100% recycled content with 50% post-consumer + process chlorine-free + system to compost/recycle paper towels
 |
| Trash Bags – Plastic | Goal: 75% of purchases meet one or more of the following* UL 126
* R+ 70% PC recycled content
* R Biobased certified (minimum 45%) + BPI Compostable
 |

**ELECTRONICS**

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| Computer Thin Clients and Workstations | Goal: 95% of purchases meet the following* R+ EPEAT Registered Gold, ENERGY STAR Certified + low standby power
 |
| Data Storage Center | Goal: 95% of purchases meet the following* R ENERGY STAR Certified
 |
| Imaging Equipment: Copiers, Multifunction Devices, Printers  | Goal: 95% of purchases meet one or more of the following* R+ EPEAT Registered gold and duplexing capable
 |
| Large Network Equipment | Goal: 95% of purchases meet the following* R ENERGY STAR Certified
 |
| Mobile Phones | Goal: 95% of purchases meet the following* R+ EPEAT Registered (highest rating available)
 |
| Servers (Enterprise) | Goal: 95% of purchases meet the following* R ENERGY STAR Certified
 |
| Small Network Equipment | Goal: 95% of purchases meet the following* R ENERGY STAR Certified
 |
| Televisions\* | Goal: 95% of purchases meet the following* R+ EPEAT Registered (highest rating available)
 |
| Uninterruptible Power Supplies | Goal: 95% of purchases meet the following* R ENERGY STAR Certified
 |

**GROUNDS/LANDSCAPING**

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| De-Icer | Goal: 75% of purchases meet one or more of the following* Sand
* Pacific Northwest Snowfighters Qualified Products excluding those with sodium chloride
* Safer Choice
* R Biobased certified (minimum 93%)
 |
| Dust Suppressant | Goal: 75% of purchases meet the following* R Biobased certified (minimum 85%)
* Safer Choice
 |
| Fertilizer | Goal: 95% of purchases are not “weed and feed” and meet one or more of the following* 0% petroleum
* OMRI Certified
* R Recovered organic
* R Biobased certified (minimum 71%)
 |
| Herbicide/Weed Control | Goal: 75% of purchases meet one or more of the following* Non-chemical means such as grazing goats
* No glyphosate (found in RoundUp and others) or 2,4-D
* Biobased certified (minimum 100%)
 |
| Pest Management Services | Goal: 100% of services meet one of the following * Pest Management Program certified by Green Shield
* Non-chemical means such as pest controls
* RPN Buyer Bee-Ware guidelines
* Microbial, insect growth regulator, or larvaecide
 |
| Vegetation | Goal: 95% of new landscape plantings meet one of the following * Pollinator friendly
* WaterSense native plants
 |

**OFFICE**

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| --- | --- |
| Binders | Goal: 90% of purchases meet the following* R+ 30% post-consumer recycled content
 |
| Bristols (cardstock) | Goal: 90% of purchases meet the following* R Post-consumer recycled content
 |
| Cartridges-Toner | Goal: 75% of purchases meet one or more of the following* R Remanufactured
* STMC registered manufacturer
 |
| Copy Paper | Goal: 100% of purchases meet the following* R+ 100% post-consumer recycled content and processed chlorine free

(Consider specifying post-consumer content AND Green Seal GS-7 or UL 2771)  |
| Furniture | Goal: 75% of purchases meet one or more of the following* BIFMA Level 2 (49 points or higher)
* CA 01350
* Cradle2Cradle Bronze Level
* Healthier Hospitals
* SCS Indoor Advantage Gold
* *UL 2818 GREENGUARD Gold*
* R Recycled
 |

**OPERATIONS/FLEET/SHIPPING/SHOP**

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| --- | --- |
| Batteries | Goal: 75% of purchases meet the following* RPN Rechargeable Battery and Recharger specifications
 |
| Boxes – Shipping  | Goal: 75% of purchases meet one or more of the following* Reusable containers
* R+ 50% post-consumer recycled fiber
* R Biobased certified (minimum 74%)
 |
| Coolants | Goal: 75% of purchases meet one or more of the following* R Reclaimed
* R Biobased certified (minimum 89%)
 |
| Fuel Conditioners | Goal: 75% of purchases meet the following * R Biobased certified (minimum 64%)
 |
| Grease:Multipurpose,Straight Oil, Truck | Goal: 75% of purchases meet the following* R Biobased certified (minimum at respective levels for each type)
 |
| Hydraulic Fluids | Goal: 75% of purchases meet the following* R Biobased certified (minimum 44%)
 |
| Metalworking Fluids:General Purpose,High Performance | Goal: 75% of purchases meet the following* R Biobased certified (minimum at respective levels for each type)
 |
| Oil General: | Goal: 75% of purchases meet one or more of the followingAuto Oil* R Re-refined

Chain and Cable Oil * R Biobased certified (minimum 77%)

Corrosion Preventative* R Biobased certified (minimum 53%)

Gear Oil* R Biobased certified (minimum 58%)

Multipurpose Oil * R Biobased certified (minimum 88%)

Penetrating Oil* R Biobased certified (minimum 68%)
 |
| Parts Wash Solution | Goal: 75% of purchases meet one or more of the following * Safer Choice
* R Biobased certified (minimum 65%)
* *Green Seal GS-34*
* *UL 2792*
 |
| Sorbents | Goal: 75% of purchases meet one or more of the following* R Recycled content
* R Biobased certified (minimum 89%)
 |
| Tires | Goal: 75% of purchases meet one or more of the following* R Retreads for trucks and heavy equipment
* SmartWay Low Rolling Resistant
 |

**OTHER**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Any | Individual DOE Site Leadership Goal: *Submit your site’s/ region’s own Priority Product data if the product and/or attributes/standards are not included in the list above but reflect the criteria for sustainable products.* * Recognition in this category provided by judges depending on circumstances described.
 |
| Any | Purchasing Reduction Goal: *Any significant product that was once frequently used and was eliminated by one or more of the following:** All purchasing was avoided by employing strategies of reuse, avoidance, or substitution (using an alternatives assessment)
* Only used versions were purchased in place of new
 |
| Any | Technology Transfer Goal:*Any product purchased that was developed and/or tested in whole or significant part by a Federal agency (for example a DOE laboratory or GSA Green Proving Ground), such as** EonCoat exterior coating (see <http://www.eoncoat.com/>)
* Grease gator (see <http://www.solvent-systems.com/aboutgator.htm>)
* LED parking lot lighting (see http://www1.eere.energy.gov/buildings/commercial/m/bba\_parking\_lot\_spec.html)
* Solar control retrofit film (see http://www.gsa.gov/portal/content/204663)
 |
| Any | Training Goal:*Certify 20% of staff involved in specifying and procuring materials, products, and services are trained on the following:** Sustainable Acquisition for Federal Agencies (https://www.wbdg.org/education/femp44.php)
 |
| Any | IT Procurement Goal:*Based on the Green Electronics Council “Purchasers Guide for Addressing Labor and Human Rights Impacts in IT Procurements”* (<http://greenelectronicscouncil.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/05/GEC_Purchasers-Guide-for-Addressing-Labor-and-Human-Rights-Impacts-in-IT-Procurements.pdf>) * Establish a policy to address labor and human rights impacts in IT procurements or
* *Incorporate one or more procurement process questions into an applicable IT contracting activity*
 |

**Attachment 3: GSA-DOE Verification Guide for Federal Purchasers of Sustainable Products**

(https://sftool.gov/plan/541/verifying-delivery-sustainable-products-services)

1. **Overview**

This guide is intended for the acquisition workforce (particularly procurement officials, requirement officials/specifiers, and other staff who affect acquisition decisions) to help verify contractor compliance with sustainability requirements specified in contracts. Both pre-award procurement actions for incorporating sustainability best practices into the contract and post-award procurement actions for verifying compliance with contract requirements are covered. For information on determining what sustainable requirements are applicable for your procurement, visit the Green Procurement Compilation (<https://sftool.gov/greenprocurement> - on the Sustainable Facilities Tool website).

**II. Pre-Award Procurement Actions**

**Product Information:** Ensure contractor is required to submit product documentation verifying compliance with sustainable requirements. Some sustainability standards (see Resources for Verifying Sustainable Products section below) require the product to be third- party certified and provide a database showing compliant products. As a general guideline, give preference for products with detailed information regarding their sustainable attributes (for example, environmental product declaration, multi-attribute sustainability label) or products providing independent verification of sustainable attributes. Preferable is third-party certified product documentation, but the manufacturer can also document which sustainability requirements the product meets. While material safety data sheets (MSDS) may contain information regarding sustainable attributes, these documents are usually not designed to capture specific sustainability requirements. Product documentation verifying compliance with sustainable requirements should only be required once from the contractor for new products submitted on the contract, but timely updates may be helpful and welcome.

**Waste Management Reports:** If waste management is included in the statement of work (for example, janitorial contracts, construction or demolition contracts), ensure language is included requiring documentation showing compliance with all waste diversion requirements (for example, management hauling receipt, certificate of recycling). Consider requiring third-party certified construction or demolition waste recyclers. Required waste management documentation should be identified in the contract, so contractors understand the documentation they will need to show waste management compliance. For accurate waste diversion measurement, require the waste hauler to provide weights (and not volumes) of materials disposed and recycled. See the Sample Janitorial Services Contract on the Green Procurement Compilation for sample statement of work language (https://sftool.gov/greenprocurement/green-services/7/janitorial-services).

**Construction Administration/Management Services:** On construction projects, specify in the scope of work for construction administration/management services that the contractor must verify compliance with sustainable product requirements during the construction phase of the project. Including such language will reduce the verification burden on the government project team members during post-award phase of construction projects.

**Project Submittals Naming Convention:** Project teams can establish a naming convention that specifies how project submittals (for example, product documentation) will identify if products are sustainable according to the contractual requirements. For example, project teams could require that contractors add the suffix “-sustainable” at the end of every sustainable product submittal.

**Contractor Source Selection:** When doing a best value source selection, consider incorporating criteria within a past performance or management plan evaluation factor that evaluates the contractor’s previous performance in complying with sustainable requirements or the contractor’s plan for providing sustainable products and services on the current procurement. Selecting a contractor that has implemented sustainability requirements well in the past or provides a good plan for providing sustainable products and services on the current procurement helps ensure sustainability requirements will be successfully implemented. For examples of sustainable product and other sustainability source selection criteria, visit the [Green Procurement Compilation](https://sftool.gov/greenprocurement) (https://sftool.gov/greenprocurement).

**III. Post-Award Procurement Actions**

**Final Deliverables:** Verify that final deliverables (such as, design, study) have incorporated sustainability requirements.

**Product or Service Documentation Submission:** Verify that product documentation or project submittals provided by contractors show compliance with all sustainable requirements. See Resources for Verifying Sustainable Products section below for further guidance. If there are too many product documents or project submittals to verify every one, random sampling can be used for verification.

**Waste Management Report Submission:** Verify that waste management hauling receipts show compliance with all waste management requirements. If there are too many waste management hauling receipts to verify every one, random sampling can be used for verification.

**Contractor Reporting:** Take reasonable steps to validate the completeness and accuracy of any contractor submitted sustainability reports (for example, biobased report required by Federal Acquisition Regulation Clause 52.223-2, Affirmative Procurement of Biobased Products Under Service and Construction Contracts). Reasonable steps can include comparing the data submitted in the sustainability report with the sustainability products that would be expected as part of contract’s performance requirements.

**Social Sustainability Requirements:** See [Social Sustainability (https://sftool.gov/plan/545/social-sustainability#PostAward)](https://cts1.hq.doe.gov/tracking/AUHSCT.nsf/UNID/AppData/Local/Microsoft/Windows/AppData/Local/Microsoft/Shabnam.Fardanesh/AppData/Local/Microsoft/Windows/Temporary%20Internet%20Files/AppData/Local/Microsoft/Windows/AppData/Local/Microsoft/Shabnam.Fardanesh/AppData/Local/Microsoft/Windows/Temporary%20Internet%20Files/Content.Outlook/4ERFIF6R/Social%20Sustainability%20%28https%3A/sftool.gov/plan/545/social-sustainability) for Post-Award Procurement Actions.

**Performance Evaluation:** When the contractor has not complied with one or more of the sustainability requirements in the contract (for example, environmental requirements, social sustainability requirements), document this non-compliance as part of the performance evaluation. See the [Resources for Verifying Sustainable Products](https://sftool.gov/plan/542/resources-verifying-sustainable-products) section below for guidance on determining whether documentation provided by the contractor confirms the product or service meets the sustainable requirements included in the contract.

**IV. Resources for Verifying Sustainable Products**

The resources (referenced websites) in this section can be used to determine whether documentation provided by the contractor confirms the product or service meets the sustainable requirements included in the contract. It is up to the contractor and/or vendor to provide credible and verifiable documentation to demonstrate compliance with all sustainability requirements. The standards listed are based on those presently recommended by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency or used in various DOE and GSA programs. It is not a finite list because this is a living document, continually updated as new specifications, standards, and ecolabels are evaluated in accordance with current Federal purchasing requirements.

The [Green](https://sftool.gov/learn/about/43/materials-resources) Procurement Compilation (<https://sftool.gov/greenprocurement> - on the Sustainable Facilities Tool website) is also a source for accessing many of the specifications, standards, and ecolabels listed here. The Green Procurement Compilation website denotes which specifications, standards, or ecolabels are required for Federal agencies.

**Vendor Compliance Determination Resources with Multiple Attributes:** Visit the Materials and Resources webpage (<https://sftool.gov/learn/about/43/materials-resources> - on the Sustainable Facilities Tool website) for terms that help define sustainable acquisition and thereby give an overview of how multiple attributes better identify sustainable products.

**BIFMA** - Business and Institutional Furniture Manufacturers Association standards

* **Covered Product Type –** Office Furniture
* **Compliance Determination:** Determine if documentation provided by contractor confirms the product meets the Level 2, Standard e3-2017 (<http://www.bifma.org/standards/index.html>). For a list of registered products, see <http://levelcertified.org>.

**CA Section 01350** – California Special Environmental Requirements

* + **Covered Product Types**
		- Carpet
		- Ceiling Tiles – Acoustical
		- Fiberboard
		- Flooring
		- Gypsum Board
		- Joint Sealers
		- Paint and Wall Coverings
* **Compliance Determination:** Determine if documentation provided by contractor confirms the product meets CA Section 01350 (<http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/GreenBuilding/Specs/Section01350/Block225Spec.pdf>)

**CEH** – Center for Environmental Health

* + **Applicable Covered Product Types**
* Foodware

Guide: https://www.ceh.org/wp-content/uploads/CEH-Disposable-Foodware-Report-final-1.31.pdf

Products: https://www.ceh.org/wp-content/uploads/CEH-Foodware-Database\_05.01.2018-Final\_Full.pdf

* Furniture

Guide: https://www.ceh.org/safer\_office/

* **Compliance Determination:** Determine if documentation provided by contractor confirms the product meets the Center for Environmental Health specifications in their guidelines. )

**Cradle2Cradle** – Cradle to Cradle Certified Product Standard

* **Applicable Covered Product Types**
	+ Adhesives (floor only)
	+ Carpet
	+ Ceiling Tiles – Acoustical
	+ Cleaners
	+ Construction Materials
	+ Custodial Supplies
	+ Flooring
	+ Furniture
	+ Operations/Fleet/Shipping/Shop Materials
	+ Paint
* **Compliance Determination:** Determine if documentation provided by contractor confirms the product meets the Cradle2Cradle standard (http://s3.amazonaws.com/c2c-website/resources/certification/standard/C2CCertified\_ProductStandard\_V3.1\_160107\_final.pdf) For a list of registered products, see http://www.c2ccertified.org/products/registry.

**EPA** – U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Food Recovery Challenge

* **Covered Product Type –** Food
* **Compliance Determination:** Determine if documentation provided by contractor confirms the contractor is on the EPA Food Recovery Challenge list (http://www.epa.gov/epawaste/conserve/smm/foodrecovery/participants.htm). To become an EPA Food Recovery Challenge participant, see http://www.epa.gov/smm/foodrecovery/joinnow.htm

**EPEAT** – Green Electronics Council’s Electronic Product Environmental Assessment Tool

* **Covered Product Types**
	+ Computers and Displays (includes slates and tablets)
	+ Imaging Equipment (copiers, fax machines, printers, scanners, etc.)
	+ Mobile Phones
	+ Televisions
* **Compliance Determination:** Determine if documentation provided by contractor confirms the product is an active EPEAT registered product on the EPEAT Registry. The EPEAT website contains a list of active registered products (<http://ww2.epeat.net/searchoptions.aspx>).

**Fair Trade** – Agricultural Production Standard

* **Applicable Covered Product Types**
	+ Beans and grains
	+ Cocoa
	+ Coffee
	+ Flowers and Plants
	+ Fruits and Vegetables
	+ Herbs and Spices
	+ Honey
	+ Multi-Ingredient Foods
	+ Nuts and Oilseeds
	+ Sugar
	+ Tea
* **Compliance Determination:** Determine if documentation provided by contractor confirms via

 product label or other language that product is Fair Trade certified. The Fair Trade website

contains a list of certified products (http://fairtradeusa.org/products-partners).

**GECA** – Good Environmental Choice Australia standards

* **Covered Product Types**
	+ Carpet
	+ Flooring
* **Compliance Determination:** Determine if documentation provided by contractor confirms via

 product label or other language that product is GECA certified. The GECA website

contains a list of certified products (http://www.geca.org.au/standards/).

**Green Seal** – Green Seal, Inc. standards

* **Covered Product Types**
	+ Adhesives
	+ Cleaning Products and Services
	+ Construction Materials and Equipment
	+ Dishwasher Detergent
	+ Hand Soaps
	+ Hotels and Lodging
	+ Napkins, Paper Towels, Tissues
	+ Paints and Coatings
	+ Parts Washer Solution
	+ Printing and Writing Paper
	+ Restaurants and Food Service
* **Compliance Determination:** Determine if documentation provided by contractor confirms via

 product label or other language that product is Green Seal certified. The Green Seal website

 contains a list of certified products ([www.greenseal.org](http://www.greenseal.org)).

**Healthier Hospitals** – Furniture and Materials the Meet the Healthier Hospitals Healthy Interiors Goal

* + **Covered Product Types**
		- Furniture
		- Textiles
* **Compliance Determination:** Determine if documentation provided by contractor confirms the product is on the Healthier Hospitals list (http://www.healthierhospitals.org/hhi-challenges/safer-chemicals/list-furniture-and-materials-meet-hh-healthy-interiors-goal).

**LEED** - U.S. Green Building Council’s Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design standards

* + **Covered Product Types -** Numerous
* **Compliance Determination:** Determine if documentation provided by contractor confirms the product meets the minimum LEED (third-party certification of structures) requirements for Existing Buildings Operations & Maintenance (https://www.usgbc.org/resources/leed-v4-building-operations-and-maintenance-current-version) or New Construction (https://www.usgbc.org/resources/leed-v4-building-design-and-construction-current-version).

**MPI** - Master Painters Institute, Inc. Extreme Green Performance Standard

* **Covered Product Types –** Paints & Coatings
* **Compliance Determination:** Determine if documentation provided by contractor confirms the product meets the minimum MPI Extreme Green Performance Standard (<http://www.paintinfo.com/MPInews/ExtremeGreen_Jan2010.shtml>), which specifies compliance with Green Performance Standard (GPS-1-12 and GPS-2-12) requirements (<http://www.paintinfo.com/GPS/GPS-01%20GPS-2%20Oct%202012.pdf>) and the Collaborative for High Performance Schools (CHPS) emissions requirements. For quick identification, the product will be on the MPI Approved Product list with an “X-Green” designation. All X-Green products are listed on the MPI website at http://www.specifypaint.com/APL/paintinfo\_APL\_new/ProductIdxByMPInum.asp

**NPS** – National Park Service Healthy Food Choice Standards

* + **Covered Product Type –** Food
* **Compliance Determination:** Determine if documentation provided by contractor confirms the availability of food aligns with the National Park Service Healthy Food Choice Standards (http://concessions.nps.gov/docs/policies/Frontcountry\_Healthy\_Foods.pdf)

**NSF** - NSF International

* **Covered Product Type –** Numerous
	+ Carpet
* Flooring
* Construction Materials
* **Compliance Determination:** Determine if documentation provided by contractor confirms the product meets the minimum NSF International standards requirements (http://info.nsf.org/Certified/Sustain/listings.asp)

**PNSS** – Pacific Northwest Snowfighters Specifications

* **Covered Product Type –** De-icer
* **Compliance Determination:** Determine if documentation provided by contractor confirms the product meets the Pacific Northwest Snow-fighters specifications (<http://pnsassociation.org/wp-content/uploads/PNSSPECS.pdf>) and is on the PNS Qualified Products List.

**Pollinator Friendly** – Pollinator-Friendly Best Management Practices for Federal Lands

* **Covered Product Type –** Pollinators
* **Compliance Determination:** Determine if practices align with the Pollinator-Friendly Best Management Practices for Federal Lands (https://www.fs.fed.us/wildflowers/pollinators/BMPs/documents/PollinatorFriendlyBMPsFederalLandsDRAFT05152015.pdf).

**RPN** – Responsible Purchasing Network Specifications

* **Covered Product Type:**
	+ Buyer Bee-Ware guidelines

Guidelines: http://www.responsiblepurchasing.org/purchasing\_guides/bee\_friendly\_purchasing/foe\_rpn\_bee\_friendly\_purchasing\_guide.pdf

* + De-Icer guidelines

Guidelines: <http://www.responsiblepurchasing.org/purchasing_guides/deicers/naspo_rpn_deicers_purchasing_guide.pdf>)

* + Disinfectant

Guidelines: <http://www.sfenvironment.org/sites/default/files/fliers/files/sfe_th_safer_products_and_practices_for_disinfecting.pdf>

* + Foodware

Guidelines: http://responsiblepurchasing.org/purchasing\_guides/food\_service\_ware/index.php

* + Rechargeable batteries and battery chargers

Guidelines: <http://www.sfapproved.org/sites/default/files/files/general-files/sfa_report_RPN_CHARGING%20AHEAD%20Report.pdf>

* **Compliance Determination:** Determine if documentation provided by contractor confirms the product meets the Responsible Purchasing Network specifications.

[**Safer Choice**](http://energy.gov/eere/femp/covered-product-categories) - U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s Safer Choice program (formerly known as Design for Environment)

* **Covered Product Types**
	+ Cleaners
	+ Degreasers
	+ De-icers
	+ Dishwasher Detergent
	+ Disinfectants (at <https://www.epa.gov/pesticide-labels/design-environment-antimicrobial-pesticide-pilot-project-moving-toward-green-end> scroll down to “List of Authorized DfE Products; ensure only “Active Ingredients for Use in Products for DfE Pesticide Pilot” are in product)
	+ Dust Control
	+ Fire Fighting
	+ Floor Care
	+ Heating & Cooling Maintenance
	+ Laundry and Dish Detergents
	+ Paint
	+ Tire Additives
	+ Other
* **Compliance Determination:**  Determine if documentation provided by contractor confirms via

 product label or other language that product has the Safer Choice label

 (https://www.epa.gov/saferchoice).

**SCS Indoor Advantage Gold** **–** Scientific Certification SystemIndoor Air Quality Product Performance Standard for Building Interiors

* **Covered Product Type**
	+ Architectural coatings/paints
	+ Adhesives
	+ Ceiling tiles
	+ Floor coverings
	+ Furniture
	+ Sealants
	+ Wall coverings
	+ Wall paneling
* **Compliance Determination:** Determine if documentation provided by contractor confirms via product label or other language that product is certified (<https://www.scsglobalservices.com/certified-green-products-guide>).

**STMC** - International Imaging Technology Council’s Standardized Test Methods Committee

* **Covered Product Type –** Remanufactured Cartridges
* **Compliance Determination:** Determine if documentation provided by contractor confirms the product manufacturer is STMC certified (<http://www.i-itc.org/vendors.html>).

**UL** – Underwriters Laboratories Environmental Standards

* **Covered Product Types –** Numerous
* UL 126 Plastic Trash Bags (formerly EcoLogo 126)

Standard: <http://www.comm-2000.com/ProductDetail.aspx?UniqueKey=24209>

Products: <https://spot.ul.com/main-app/products/catalog/?keywords=&filter=Standard%2520Number:UL%2520126%2520-%25202012%2520Standard%2520for%2520Sustainability%2520for%2520Plastic%2520Film%2520Products>

* UL 175 Toilet Tissue (formerly EcoLogo 82)

Standard: <http://www.comm-2000.com/ProductDetail.aspx?UniqueKey=27249>

Products: <https://spot.ul.com/main-app/products/catalog/?keywords=&filter=Standard%2520Number:UL%2520175%2520Standard%2520for%2520Sustainability%2520for%2520Sanitary%2520Paper%2520Products>

* UL 2759 General Cleaner (formerly EcoLogo 146)

Standard: <http://www.comm-2000.com/ProductDetail.aspx?UniqueKey=23384>

Products: <https://spot.ul.com/main-app/products/catalog/?keywords=&filter=Standard%2520Number:UL%25202759%2520-%25202011%2520Standard%2520for%2520the%2520Sustainability%2520for%2520Hard%2520Surface%2520Cleaners>

* UL 2762 Adhesives (formerly EcoLogo 46)

Standard: <http://www.comm-2000.com/ProductDetail.aspx?UniqueKey=23406>

Products: <https://spot.ul.com/main-app/products/catalog/?keywords=&filter=Standard%2520Number:UL%25202762%2520-%25202011%2520Standard%2520for%2520the%2520Sustainability%2520for%2520Adhesives>

* UL 2771 Copy Paper (formerly EcoLogo 077)

Standard: <http://www.comm-2000.com/ProductDetail.aspx?UniqueKey=23431>

Products: <https://spot.ul.com/main-app/products/catalog/?keywords=&filter=Standard%2520Number:UL%25202771%2520-%25202011%2520Standard%2520for%2520the%2520Sustainability%2520for%2520Paper%2520Products>

* UL 2777 Floor Cleaner (formerly EcoLogo 147)

Standard: <http://www.comm-2000.com/ProductDetail.aspx?UniqueKey=23607>

Products: <https://spot.ul.com/main-app/products/catalog/?keywords=&filter=Standard%2520Number:UL%25202777%2520-%25202011%2520Standard%2520for%2520the%2520Sustainability%2520for%2520Hard%2520Floor%2520Care%2520Products>

* UL 2784 Hand Cleaner (formerly EcoLogo 104)

Standard: <http://www.comm-2000.com/ProductDetail.aspx?UniqueKey=23404>

Products: <https://spot.ul.com/main-app/products/catalog/?keywords=&filter=Standard%2520Number:UL%25202784%2520-%25202011%2520Standard%2520for%2520Sustainability%2520for%2520Hand%2520Cleaners>

* UL 2792 Parts Wash Solution (formerly EcoLogo 110)

Standard: <http://www.comm-2000.com/PurchaseProduct.aspx?UniqueKey=31077>

Products: <https://spot.ul.com/main-app/products/catalog/?filter=Standard%2520Number:UL%25202792%2520-%25202012%2520Standard%2520for%2520Sustainability%2520for%2520Cleaning%2520and%2520Degreasing%2520Compounds%253A%2520Biologically-based>

* UL 2795 Carpet Cleaner (formerly EcoLogo 148)

Standard: <http://www.comm-2000.com/ProductDetail.aspx?UniqueKey=24123>

Products: <https://spot.ul.com/main-app/products/catalog/?filter=Standard%2520Number:UL%25202795%2520-%25202012%2520Standard%2520for%2520Sustainability%2520for%2520Carpet%2520and%2520Upholstery%2520Care%2520Products>

* + UL 2818 GREENGUARD Gold (Underwriters Laboratories GREENGUARD Certification Program Method for Chemical Emissions for Building Materials, Finishes and Furnishings)

Standard: <http://www.comm-2000.com/PurchaseProduct.aspx?UniqueKey=27251>

Product: <https://spot.ul.com/main-app/products/catalog/?filter=Standard%2520Number:UL%25202818%2520-%25202013%2520Gold%2520Standard%2520for%2520Chemical%2520Emissions%2520for%2520Building%2520Materials%252C%2520Finishes%2520and%2520Furnishings>

Further Information: http://greenguard.org/en/CertificationPrograms/CertificationPrograms\_childrenSchools.aspx

To access the standards:

Once at the URL indicated, click on “Checkout”

Log on with your user name and password (you’ll have to set that up if you have not already)

Select “Checkout” once again

Select “Download PDF” (red box)

Select “Download Standard (red box)

Open standard as Adobe Acrobat (pdf) file

* **Compliance Determination:** Determine if documentation provided by contractor confirms via

 product label or other language that product is UL certified (formerly “EcoLogo” label by Terra

 Choice and prior to that “Environmental Choice” label).

**Vendor Compliance Determination Resources with Single Attributes**

Visit the [Green](https://sftool.gov/learn/about/43/materials-resources) Procurement Compilation (https://sftool.gov/greenprocurement) for information on designated product requirements. This information can be used to better understand the designated product requirements and how to verify whether contractors/vendors are providing compliant products.

**BioPreferred** - U.S. Department of Agriculture’s standards for biobased content

* **Covered Product Types:**
	+ Cafeteria
	+ Construction
	+ Custodial
	+ Films and Packaging
	+ Fleet
	+ Grounds Maintenance
	+ Lubricants
	+ Miscellaneous
	+ Operations and Maintenance
	+ Shipping
	+ Solvents
* **Compliance Determination Option 1:** Determine if documentation provided by contractor

 confirms via product label or other language that product is BioPreferred.

* **Compliance Determination Option 2:** If only biobased content is provided, visit BioPreferred

website (<http://www.biopreferred.gov/BioPreferred/faces/catalog/Catalog.xhtml>) and search for product category. The webpage for each product category states the required minimum biobased percentage that the product must meet. After determining the required percentage, compare this percentage to the biobased content stated in the contractor provided documentation. When the contract specifies a higher biobased content percentage than USDA BioPreferred, this higher biobased content percentage should be verified.

**BPI** – Biodegradable Products Institute Certified Products

* **Covered Product Types**
	+ Cups
	+ Cutlery
	+ Take Out Containers
	+ Food Waste Bags
	+ Yard Waste Bags
	+ Resins and Coatings
* **Compliance Determination:** Determine if documentation provided by contractor confirms the

 product is on the BPI Certified Products list (http://products.bpiworld.org/).

**CA ATCM 93120** - Airborne Toxic Control Measure to Reduce Formaldehyde Emissions from Composite Wood Products

* **Covered Product Types**
	+ Fiberboard – medium density
	+ Hardwood Plywood
	+ Particleboard
* **Compliance Determination:** Determine if documentation provided by contractor confirms the

product complies with CA ATCM 93120 (http://www.arb.ca.gov/regact/2007/compwood07/fro-final.pdf)

**Cedar Grove** – Compostability Testing

* **Applicable Covered Product Types**
	+ Bags
	+ Bowls
	+ Clamshells
	+ Coffee Pods
	+ Coffee Sleeves
	+ Containers – take out
	+ Cups
	+ Drink Carriers
	+ Food Trays
	+ Napkins
	+ Plates
	+ Utensils
* **Compliance Determination:** Determine if documentation provided by contractor confirms the

product is on the Cedar Grove certified products list (http://cedar-grove.com/compostable/accepted-items)

**CPG** - U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s Comprehensive Procurement Guidelines for recycled content

* **Covered Product Types**
	+ Construction Products
	+ Landscaping Products
	+ Non-Paper Office Products
	+ Paper and Paper Products
	+ Park and Recreation Products
	+ Transportation Products
	+ Vehicular Products
	+ Miscellaneous Products
* **Compliance Determination Option 1:** Determine if documentation provided by contractor

 confirms via product label or other language that product meets CPG.

* **Compliance Determination Option 2:** If only recycled content is provided, visit the CPG website (https://www.epa.gov/smm/comprehensive-procurement-guideline-cpg-program#products) and search for product category. The webpage for each product category states the required minimum recycled content percentage that the product must meet. After determining the required percentage, compare this percentage to the recycled content stated in the contractor documentation. When the contract specifies a higher recycled content percentage than EPA CPG, this higher recycled content percentage should be verified.

**ENERGY STAR** – U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s energy efficiency standards

* **Covered Product Types**
	+ Building Products
	+ Commercial Appliances and Food Equipment
	+ Electronics
	+ Heating & Cooling
	+ Lighting & Fans
	+ Office Equipment
	+ Water Heaters
* **Compliance Determination:** Determine if documentation provided by contractor confirms via

product label or other language that product is ENERGY STAR certified. Verify that information on the ENERGY STAR website (<http://www.energystar.gov/products/certified-products>).

**FEMP** - U.S. Department of Energy’s Federal Energy Management Program (FEMP) energy efficiency standards

* **Covered Product Type**
	+ Boilers – Commercial

https://www.energy.gov/eere/femp/purchasing-energy-efficient-commercial-boilers

* + Chillers

https://energy.gov/eere/femp/purchasing-energy-efficient-water-cooled-electric-chillers

* + Ice Machines – Water-Cooled

https://www.energy.gov/eere/femp/purchasing-energy-efficient-water-cooled-ice-machines

* + LED Commercial Lighting
	+ https://www.designlights.org/solid-state-lighting/
* **Compliance Determination:** Determine if documentation provided by contractor confirms that product meets the minimum energy efficiency requirement stated on the FEMP website. For boilers, chillers, and water-cooled ice machines the websites list the minimum energy efficiency required. After determining the minimum efficiency, compare this efficiency to the energy efficiency stated in the documentation provided by the contractor. For commercial LED lights, the website shows the qualified lights.

**FEMP Low-Standby Power** - U.S. Department of Energy’s Federal Energy Management Program (FEMP) standard

* **Covered Product Types**
	+ Computer- Desktop
	+ Computer- Thin Client
	+ Computer- Workstation
* **Compliance Determination:** Determine if documentation provided by contractor confirms via product label or other language that product is a FEMP Low-Standby Power product as denoted on the [FEMP website](http://energy.gov/eere/femp/low-standby-power-products) (<http://energy.gov/eere/femp/low-standby-power-products>).

**FloorScore** - Resilient Floor Covering Institute in conjunction with Scientific Certification Systems third-party Air Emission Certification

* **Covered Product Types –** Flooring and Flooring Adhesives
* **Compliance Determination:** Determine if documentation provided by contractor confirms the product meets the minimum Air Emission Certification of volatile organic compound free flooring and flooring adhesives (<http://www.scscertified.com/gbc/floorscore.php>).

**Mercury**

* **Applicable Covered Product Types**
	+ Fiberboard
	+ Gypsum Panels
	+ Wallboard
* **Compliance Determination:** Specify “no mercury” in construction contracts for compressed board type products (<https://www.buildinggreen.com/blog/gypsum-board-are-our-walls-leaching-toxins>)

**Non-Therapeutic Antibiotics**

* **Applicable Covered Product Type –** Meat
* **Compliance Determination:** Specify “no non-therapeutic antibiotics” in cafeteria contracts pertaining to meat (<http://www.humanesociety.org/assets/pdfs/farm/HSUS-Human-Health-Report-on-Antibiotics-in-Animal-Agriculture.pdf?credit=blog_post12115>)

**OMRI** – Organic Materials Review Institute

* **Applicable Covered Product Type –** Fertilizer
* **Compliance Determination:** Determine if documentation provided by contractor confirms the product is OMRI certified (https://www.omri.org/ubersearch/results/fertilizers?type[]=frequent\_questions&type[]=page&type[]=materials\_article&type[]=opd\_listed\_product&type[]=opd\_prohibited\_product&type[]=opd\_removed\_product).

**Organic** - U.S. Department of Agriculture’s (USDA) Organic Food Standard

* **Covered Product Type –** Food
* **Compliance Determination:** The USDA organic seal verifies that the product has 95 percent or more certified organic content and confirms no genetically modified organisms. USDA organic is “a labeling term that indicates that the food or other agricultural product has been produced through approved methods that integrate cultural, biological, and mechanical practices that foster cycling of resources, promote ecological balance, and conserve biodiversity. Synthetic fertilizers, sewage sludge, irradiation, and genetic engineering may not be used.”Determine if documentation provided by contractor confirms via product label or other language that product is USDA certified organic (<http://www.ams.usda.gov/AMSv1.0/nop>).

**Perfluorinated Chemicals**

* **Applicable Covered Product Types**
	+ Carpet
	+ Food containers
* **Compliance Determination:** Specify “no perfluorinated chemicals” in carpet and food container contracts (http://greensciencepolicy.org/highly-fluorinated-chemicals/)

**SmartWay** – U.S. Environmental Protection Agency fuel efficiency partner program

* **Covered Product Types**
	+ Fuel
	+ Tires
* **Compliance Determination:** For fuel, determine if documentation provided by contractor confirms the freight transportation contractor is on the EPA SmartWay Partner list (http://www.epa.gov/smartway/about/partnerlists.htm) and for tires, determine if documentation provided by contractor confirms the product is on the SmartWay verified list for low rolling resistance (https://www.epa.gov/verified-diesel-tech/learn-about-low-rolling-resistance-lrr-new-and-retread-tire-technologies).

**SNAP** – U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s Significant New Alternatives Policy for ozone depleting substances

* **Covered Product Types**
	+ Adhesives, Coatings, and Inks
	+ Aerosols
	+ Cleaning Solvents
	+ Fire Suppression and Explosion Protection
	+ Foam Blowing Agents
	+ Refrigeration & Air Conditioning
	+ Sterilants
* **Compliance Determination:** Determine if documentation provided by contractor confirms that

product is an acceptable substitute for an ozone-depleting substance or high-global warming potential substance as stated on the [SNAP website](http://www.epa.gov/spdpublc/snap/lists/index.html) (https://www.epa.gov/snap/substitutes-sector). This website lists acceptable substitutes for each product type. If proposed product is listed as ozone depleting substance or high-global warming potential substance, then work with contractor to use an acceptable substitute as listed on the website.

[**WaterSense**](http://www.epa.gov/WaterSense/products/) - U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s water efficiency standards

* **Covered Product Types:**
	+ Landscape Irrigation Controllers
	+ Native Plants
	+ Showerheads
	+ Spray Sprinklers
	+ Spray Valves - Commercial Pre-Rinse
	+ Toilets – Flushometer Valve
	+ Urinals - Flushing
* **Compliance Determination:** Determine if documentation provided by contractor confirms via

product label or other language that product has the WaterSense label (<http://www.epa.gov/watersense/product_search.html>).

**V. Additional Resources**

* **Ecolabel Index** - Big Room Inc. index of ecolabels (<http://www.ecolabelindex.com/ecolabels/>).

 Payment for use of the Ecolabel Index is required.

* **Responsible Purchasing Network** has published a set of Green Purchasing Best Practices

Guides for the National Association of State Procurement Officials. The webpage for these guides is http://www.responsiblepurchasing.org/resources/naspo\_rpn\_purchasing\_guides/index.php.

1. https://sftool.gov/plan/541/verifying-delivery-sustainable-products-services [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. See Federal Acquisition Regulations (FAR) Part 23 for the requirements (<http://www.acquisition.gov/far/current/html/FARTOCP23.html#wp227606>).

See FAR 52.223 for the clauses ([http://www.acquisition.gov/far/current/html/52\_223\_226.html](https://www.acquisition.gov/far/current/html/52_223_226.html)). [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. <https://www.epa.gov/greenerproducts/epas-recommendations-specifications-standards-and-ecolabels> [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. <https://www.fedcenter.gov/_kd/Items/actions.cfm?action=Show&item_id=28345&destination=ShowItem> [↑](#footnote-ref-4)