

# The greengov Leader

Council on Environmental Quality

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*"Of course, the easiest way to save money is to waste less energy."  
-President Barack Obama, State of the Union, January 24, 2012*

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## CEQ News

### Federal Agencies Release Updates on Energy and Sustainability

*"These scorecards provide agencies with a useful tool to keep focused on saving billions in energy costs over the next decade and help the Federal Government lead the Nation by example."*

*- Nancy Sutley, Chair of the White House Council on Environmental Quality*

On June 15, 2012, federal agencies [released](#) their annual scorecards on energy and sustainability performance. This marks the second year agencies have released the scorecards, reporting on their progress towards goals outlined under [Executive Order 13514](#). Agencies address their areas needing improvement and expand on their successes when

updating their Sustainability plans for 2012. Each Agency has made their scorecard publicly available on their websites. A link to each agency scorecard is available at [sustainability.performance.gov](http://sustainability.performance.gov).

### Agency 2012 Sustainability Plans

Under Executive Order 13514, Federal agencies are required to develop, implement, and annually update a plan that prioritizes actions based on a positive return on investment and to meet GHG emissions, energy, water, and waste reduction targets. The 2012 Plans were due to CEQ and OMB June 29 for review and will be publically released later this year on the [performance.gov](http://performance.gov) website. In May, the 2012 Sustainability Plan template was revised to reduce the time it takes users to load the electronic template.



### 2012 GreenGov Symposium

The *2012 GreenGov Symposium – Leading by Example* will be held September 24 and 25, with post-conference meetings and workshops on September 26 at the Marriott Wardman Park Hotel in Washington, DC. CEQ and the Association of Climate Change Officers are working with speakers to build an informative dialogue on innovative and leading-edge sustainability concepts and policies. This year, a variety of sessions will be convened to fully explore and exchange ideas, challenges, and best practices between Federal government, private sector, NGO, state and local government, and academic attendees. More information and a full list of potential topic areas may be found at [greengov2012.org](http://greengov2012.org).

## Agency News

### 15th Annual GovEnergy Conference

For 15 years, GovEnergy has brought together the nation's leaders in policy, technology and operations to address energy management in the Federal government. This year's conference will be held August 19 -22 in St. Louis, MO, hosting over 150 training sessions within 19 topic tracks. The sessions will encourage and facilitate the sharing of ideas, tools, and success stories to support the goals of existing energy and environmental statutes, regulations, and Executive Orders. In addition to the August event, GovEnergy offers a new monthly webinar series with live sessions from last year's workshop. Visit the [GovEnergy website](#) for more information on the 2012 conference.

### Federal Agencies Make Top 50 for Green Power

The Environmental Protection Agency announced its quarterly [National Top 50 Partners for the Green Power Partnership](#), a voluntary program that encourages organizations to buy green power as a way to reduce the environmental impacts associated with conventional electricity use. The Partnership currently has more than 1,300 Partner organizations voluntarily purchasing over 23 billion kilowatt-hours of green power annually. Of the Top 50, which includes private companies, colleges and universities, and government entities, the Department of Energy, Air Force, Environmental Protection Agency, and Department of Veterans Affairs made the list. The Green Power Partnership also ranks the [Top 10 Federal Government](#) partners, representing the largest green power users among federal government organizations that have joined the partnership. These 10 government organizations have a combined green power usage of more than 1.2 billion kilowatt-hours annually, equivalent to the amount of electricity needed to power more than 105,000 average American homes each year.

### Marine Corps Landfill Now Providing Energy, Reducing GHGs in San Diego

The landfill at the Marine Corps Air Station Miramar (MCAS Miramar), in San Diego, California is now capable of supplying up to half of the daily power to the Station for the next 15 years. By capturing methane at the landfill, the Miramar Energy facility will use two generators to provide 3.2 megawatts of renewable energy. The facility went online on [June 14, 2012](#), through the coordination of the Marine Corps, the City of San Diego, and Fortistar Energy Group, who was awarded the contract for project by the Naval Facilities Engineering Command Southwest. The Miramar Energy facility project started in 2007 and will help ease the burden on the local San Diego energy grid and move the MCAS Miramar one step closer towards energy independence. MCAS Miramar is also utilizing water reclamation and solar panels to reduce energy consumption.

### California Post Office Uses Solar Power as Primary Electricity Source

Located amongst National Forests in the northern-most part of California, the Post Office for the town of Forks of Salmon is utilizing three on-site solar panels to power its building. The building had previously been powered using a propane generator, but that generator is now used to charge batteries for when solar power cannot be harnessed. With solar panels on the roof of the building, the Forks of Salmon Post Office is providing itself with reliable and renewable power.



(Photo of Forks of Salmon Post Office, courtesy of USPS)

### EPEAT Environmental Rating System – New Standards Moving Toward Implementation

After three years of stakeholder work, more than 75 percent of the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers voters gave a positive vote for the IEEE 1680 standards that will form the basis of the [EPEAT Imaging Equipment](#)

[and Television environmental ratings](#). The 75 percent positive vote is an important step towards publication and implementation of the standards later in 2012. EPEAT environmental ratings currently cover PCs and Displays, with the environmental performance criteria addressing design, production, energy use, and product longevity and recycling.

### 50<sup>th</sup> Annual Secretary of Defense Environmental Awards

On June 6, 2012, the Department of Defense [announced](#) ten individual and installation winners in six categories that demonstrate the ways in which Military Service men and women are protecting our environment. The winners are as follows: Sustainability, Industrial Installation: Scranton Army Ammunition Plant; Environmental Quality, Non-Industrial Installation: Fort Hood, Texas; Natural Resources Conservation, Individual/Team: US. Army Garrison-Hawaii, Oahu Army Natural Resource Team; Environmental Quality, Individual/Team: Fort Hood Recycle Team, Texas; Environmental Excellence in Weapon System Acquisition, Team: Stryker Brigade Combat Team, Warren, Michigan; Natural Resources Conservation, Small Installation: Marine Corps Base Hawaii; Environmental Quality, Individual/Team: Naval Supply Fleet Logistics Center, Pearl Harbor, Hawaii; Environmental Restoration, Individual/Team: former Mare Island Naval Shipyard, California; Environmental Restoration, Installation: 7<sup>th</sup> CEG, Hill Air Force Base, Utah; and Cultural Resources Management, Installation: 30<sup>th</sup> Space Wing, Vandenberg Air Force Base, California.

### DOE Announces Finalists for the Better Buildings Federal Award

By challenging federal buildings to achieve the greatest energy intensity reduction in fiscal year 2012, the first-annual [Better Buildings Federal Award](#) is part of the Federal Government's commitment to save energy. There are now eight finalists remaining in the competition that spans one fiscal year, until September 30, 2012. The following eight facilities were selected as finalists: **Department of Defense:** Army and Air Force Exchange Service, Fort Hood, Texas; **Department of Energy:** Sandia National Laboratory Building 753, Albuquerque, New Mexico; **Department of the Army:** Boatwright Maintenance Park Building 2770, Fort Knox, Kentucky; **Department of Interior:** Bureau of Reclamation Brackish Groundwater National Desalination Research Facility, Alamogordo, New Mexico; **Department of Treasury:** Bureau of Public Debt Avery Street Building, Parkersburg, West Virginia; **General Services Administration:** Frank Carlson Federal Building and Courthouse, Topeka, Kansas; Neal Smith Federal Building, Des Moines, Iowa; and Sam Nunn Atlanta Federal Center, Atlanta, Georgia.



#### Announcements

- White House Blog: [Brainstorming with Energy Data](#)
- EPA is taking comments on the draft publication [Creating Equitable, Healthy, and Sustainable Communities: Strategies for Advancing Smart Growth, Environmental Justice, and Equitable Development](#) until July 6, 2012.
- The nominations for [GreenGov 2012 Presidential Awards](#) closed on June 15, 2012.
- The U.S. Army's [Northern Region Review](#) Now Available

#### Upcoming Events

##### July

- 7/5 [Uncle Sam as a Polluter Webinar](#)
- 7/12 [Implementing Deep Retrofits Webinar](#)
- 7/16 [Waste Characterization Classroom Course \(DOE\)](#)
- 7/17 [Aligning Green Power Partners with New Renewable Energy Projects Webinar](#)
- 7/17-7/19 [ESPC Comprehensive Workshop Webinar](#)
- 7/19 [Resource Conservation and Recovery Act Webinar](#)
- 7/31 [An Overview of CERCLA – Cleaning up America's Hazardous Waste Sites Webinar](#)

## **Upcoming Events, Cont.**

### **August**

8/2 [Contemporary Issues in Environmental Justice Webinar](#)

8/19 – 8/23 [StormCon 2012](#) – North American Surface Water Quality Conference

**Have success stories to share?** OFEE is interested in hearing what your agency has done in implementing energy efficient and environmentally preferable practices. Let us know what successes you have had and any savings you have realized. Send a brief description and photo if available to [greengov@fedcenter.gov](mailto:greengov@fedcenter.gov).

### **Training at Anytime**

FedCenter offers [free training](#) to federal employees that can be taken online at any time. Currently, courses in Environmental Compliance for Federal Laboratories; Environmental Management Systems; and Underground Storage Tanks are available to federal employees that are [members](#) of FedCenter. The training webpage also lists a number of non-FedCenter courses available to anyone. Topics include Acquisitions, Compliance/Enforcement, High Performance Buildings, NEPA and 25 other categories.

*Office of the Federal Environmental Executive - Council on Environmental Quality - Executive Office of the President*