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## CBC NEWSLETTER – FEBRUARY 2011

### **CBC Commends and Supports President Obama's Commercial Better Buildings Initiative**

On February 3, 2011, President Obama announced a new federal initiative to improve energy efficiency in commercial buildings 20% over the next ten years. According to David Terry, executive director of the National Association of State Energy Officials (NASEO), "While many details remain to be settled, this is a very exciting development for the commercial buildings sector, and the Zero Energy Commercial Buildings Consortium (CBC) fully supports these goals and looks forward to working with CBC members and industry stakeholders to contribute to these efforts. The President's initiative targets many of the same barriers examined by CBC members over the last year, which are summarized in two major reports released by the CBC this month."

[Read full article.](#)

### **CBC Releases Summary Reports**

The CBC is pleased to release its two reports, "[Next Generation Technologies Barriers and Industry Recommendations for Commercial Buildings](#)" and "[Analysis of Cost & Non-Cost Barriers and Policy Solutions for Commercial Buildings](#)," which summarize the contributions of its Working Groups over the last year. These reports present a high-level view of the current status of the commercial building sector, barriers and challenges, and recommendations for industry in each of the working group topics. For more detail on a specific subject represented in the reports, please refer to the working group reports on each [working group page](#).

In the next few weeks, the CBC plans to host a webinar for members to discuss in more detail the reports' results and future opportunities for member engagement. A separate notice will be sent once a date is determined, and we look forward to your participation.

The CBC gratefully acknowledges all the hard work and contributions of its working group members. Particularly, the CBC would like to thank the [working group chairs](#) for the leadership, time, and effort they dedicated to the development of these groups and reports.

## **CBC Seeks Members' Projects and Case Studies**

In a new effort to enhance knowledge sharing and raise visibility around successful among our 400+ members, the CBC would like share stories of how innovative technologies, practices, and approaches CBC members are employing have achieved dramatic improvements in building energy performance. CBC invites members to [fill out this simple form](#) to help us begin capturing and identifying stories to feature in the CBC monthly newsletter and on the CBC website.

Preference will be given to those stories that address some of the barriers and industry recommendations identified by the CBC Working Groups and summarized in the CBC reports and demonstrate action and progress related to those barriers and recommendations. Refer to the CBC reports [here](#).

As you complete the submission form, please be aware that the CBC cannot endorse any specific product or manufacturer. Rather the CBC can only discuss common commercial building challenges and failures which need to be addressed through changes and innovations in technologies, practices, and approaches.

## **DOE Announces New Design Specification at Recent Supplier Summit**

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) and the Commercial Building Energy Alliances (CBEA) announced a new design specification for high performance rooftop units (RTUs) that would reduce energy use by as much as 50-60% at the HVAC/R & Controls Supplier Summit: *Challenges and Opportunities for Improving Energy Efficiency* on February 3, 2011. Several major building owners and CBEA members such as Target and Walmart have signed on, indicating their interest in purchasing units that meet the specification and are consistent with their company's procurement criteria and time frames. Manufacturers interested in producing compliant high-efficiency units can access technical assistance through DOE's national laboratories.

The CBC encourages building owners and manufacturers to consider participating in this effort. For more information and to sign up, please visit the [High Performance Rooftop Unit Challenge webpage](#). There you can find fact sheets, full and summary versions of the specification, and information on upcoming webinars and meetings.

## **CBC Presents on Collaboration Opportunities at DOE HVAC/R Supplier Summit**

Diana Lin, program manager at the National Association of State Energy Officials (NASEO) presented at the recent DOE HVAC/R & Controls Supplier Summit hosted by ASHRAE, and shared ideas for continued industry collaboration through the CBC on challenges and opportunities in the commercial buildings sector. [Download presentation here.](#)

## **Submit Projects for PG&E Zero Net Energy Pilot Program by February 18**

The Pacific Gas & Electric has extended the deadline for its [Request for Ideas \(RFI\)](#) for Design and Technical Assistance for Community-Scale, Commercial, and Residential Projects with Zero Net Energy Goals to February 18. PG&E is currently looking for projects in the early stages of entitlement and design to participate in design assistance and performance assessment as part of its Zero Net Energy (ZNE) Pilot Program. Through this pilot, PG&E will provide design assistance, technical assistance, and performance evaluation to selected projects.

Please review the program background and RFI online, and anyone wishing to make a project submission must first contact Anna LaRue ([AMLE@pge.com](mailto:AMLE@pge.com)) for submission instructions.

### **Industry Events (sidebar)**

[2011 Great Energy Efficiency Day](#)

February 16, 2011 – Washington, DC

[International Roofing Expo](#)

February 16-18, 2011 - Las Vegas, NV

[Webinar: High-Performance Rooftop Unit Specification Overview for Building Owners and Operators](#)

February 23, 2011 - 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. EST

[Meeting: Review of HVAC Competencies in DOE's National Laboratory System and Facilitated Discussion](#)

February 24, 2011 - Washington, DC

[NESEA's BuildingEnergy Conference](#)

March 8 – 11, 2011 – Boston, MA

[EE Global 2011](#)

April 12 - 14, 2011 - Brussels, Belgium

[AIA Annual Meeting](#)

May 12-14, 2011 - New Orleans, LA

[6th International Conference on Energy Efficiency in Domestic Appliances and Lighting](#)

May 24, 2011 - Copenhagen, Denmark

[More upcoming events](#)

Commercial Buildings Consortium

[zeroenergycbc.org](http://zeroenergycbc.org)