

## FAQs from FY08 USACE LEED Implementation Workshops

1. QUESTION: Will USACE require having a LEED-AP at each Division (in addition to current requirement for at least one LEED-AP at each District/Center and inclusion of a LEED AP on each design team and construction team)? **No**
2. QUESTION: 30% energy reduction is current requirement. Is % going to increase and, if so, when and what % increase is projected? This needs to be addressed now in current programming for out years. **No action will be taken unilaterally by USACE. New legislation increasing % is anticipated. Criteria will be revised accordingly. Program the project based on current criteria and, if a future written criteria change notification effects the project after budget lock, a waiver or change request may be requested if necessary.**
3. QUESTION: LEED Silver level is current requirement. Is LEED achievement level going to increase to Gold level and, if so, when is increase projected? This needs to be addressed now in current programming for out years. **No increase in the current across-the-board minimum LEED achievement level is being considered at this time.**
4. QUESTION: UFC 3-400-01 Energy Conservation instructs the designer to achieve 30% energy reduction unless life cycle costs are prohibitive. If so, reduce 5% and continue until life cycle costs are favorable. Current MILCON Transformation RFP Template says to achieve 30% reduction with no modifier for life cycle cost effectiveness. What EPACT criteria apply to current full design-bid-build Army projects? Do the reduced/revised criteria as contained in MT RFP apply to design-bid-build Army projects? **If the Design Directive requires compliance with MILCON Transformation principles, the criteria in the MT RFP template are the applicable criteria for the project. Otherwise all current USACE criteria and guidance applies, including UFC 3-400-01 Energy Conservation.**
5. QUESTION: Is LEED required for USACE Civil Works projects on USACE owned property? **No. Laws applicable to all federal facilities apply and the USACE Environmental Operating Principles apply.**
6. QUESTION: Do the Army LEED requirements apply to Army projects that are:
  - a. OCONUS? **Yes. However, if the host nation has sustainable design criteria that can be demonstrated by the PDT to be equal to or exceed the LEED requirement for a project, the host nation criteria may be used instead. Use of host nation criteria instead of LEED is permitted only if the PDT advises HQUSACE and ACSIM in advance.**
  - b. OCONUS funded and occupied by host nation? **Follow host nation criteria.**
  - c. Located on an Army installation in a foreign country (treaty)? **Yes. (see response to a).**
  - d. Located on a foreign country military installation? **Yes (see response to a).**

- e. Army facilities located on a Navy or Air Force Base **Yes.**
- f. Army-constructed facilities occupied by host nation (fully or joint-use) **Yes (see response to a).**
7. QUESTION: Is the requirement for all design and construction teams to include a LEED AP applicable to OCONUS projects? **Yes. However, if the project is using equivalent host nation criteria per question 6a above, the host nation criteria credentials may be used instead.**
8. QUESTION: Can other LEED rating tools be used if they are more applicable to a particular project type (example LEED for Schools for school projects)? **Use of other LEED rating tools is permitted only with an approved waiver from ACSIM.**
9. QUESTION: Will Army adopt LEED 2009 upon it's issuance in January 2009? **LEED 2009 will replace the current version of LEED-NC and we will have to keep up with changes to LEED. But do not assume LEED 2009 will be automatically adopted by Army upon publication. Written guidance will be issued.**
10. QUESTION: Should we be incorporating LEED ND (Neighborhood Development) into our projects, particularly projects that include a campus of several buildings? **There is no requirement to formally score any Army projects using LEED ND. Many of the elements in LEED ND represent sound master planning practices and are being embedded in Installation Master Plans, Area Development Plans and Installation Design Guides by Army Planners.**
11. QUESTION: What happens if a project fails on a LEED Prerequisite? Does this nullify all the points in that category or in the project? **If a project is seeking USGBC certification, failure on any prerequisite will preclude project certification. On a Government-validated project it is counterproductive to nullify all points if there is a prerequisite failure. Project should proceed with achieving it's LEED points but all reporting, including final score, must include a caveat noting the failure on the prerequisite.**
12. QUESTION: Would a photovoltaic array placed on a roof conflict with the heat island –roof credit? **It could. If the placement of the photovoltaic array does not interfere with achieving the intent, it does not preclude it.**
13. QUESTION: For purposes of EQ credits 8.1 and 8.2 (Daylighting and Views), are corridors considered regularly occupied spaces? **No – see LEED Reference Guide. Classrooms and conference rooms are, though.**
14. QUESTION: Can the Enhanced Commissioning credit be earned by a design-build contractor? The LEED Reference Guide says for this credit the Commissioning Authority (CxA) cannot be hired by the Contractor. **Yes, per CIR**

dated 9/15/06 the CxA may be hired by the Contractor so long as the CxA acts independently and answers directly to the Owner.

15. QUESTION: Can a project with no landscaping at all earn WE credits 1.1 and 1.2 (Water Efficient Landscaping) if it has no irrigation system? No, per LEED CI SSC1 CIR dated 4/20/07 projects with no landscaping at all are not eligible for these credits.