

VA SUPPLEMENT CHAPTER 18: **SUSTAINABILITY AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS**

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Part 1: Overview

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is required to follow the National Environmental Policy Act of 1970 (NEPA) and consider the impacts of VA's actions on the human environment.

When used throughout this VA Supplement Chapter, "Reserved" means the information in [GSA's LDG](#) applies to VA's leasing program without further supplemental information.

More VA specific guidance can be found at [Office of Construction and Facilities Management \(CFM\) Environmental Program Office](#).

a. Sustainability Practices

Reserved.

b. Resilience and Climate Change Adaptation

Reserved.

c. Applicability

Reserved.

Part 2: Energy and Sustainable Business Practice Requirements

Reserved.

a. Sustainable Location Policy for Leases

Reserved.

b. Environmental Due Diligence

Reserved.

c. Importance of Request for Lease Proposal and Lease Paragraphs

Reserved.

d. Net of Utilities Lease Structure

Reserved.

e. Lessor Disclosures for Energy Consumption, Greenhouse Gas

Emissions, and Water Usage.

Reserved.

f. ENERGY STAR® Score Reporting

Reserved.

g. Net Zero Emissions Leases

Reserved.

Part 3: Energy Independence and Security Act Requirements

VA does not dictate a portfolio-wide green building rating certification system both LEED and Green Globes rating certification systems are acceptable. VA clients track sustainability standards based on their organization's program and policy, which may require different rating systems across different facilities. The determination on which green building rating certification system to use is dependent upon the project specifics and the client's mission and needs. VA's organizational structure supports the selection of rating systems on a project basis, resulting in appropriate use of resources to effectively meet VA's portfolio needs.

a. The ENERGY STAR® Label for Lease Acquisitions

Reserved.

b. ENERGY STAR® Terminology

Reserved.

c. ENERGY STAR® Label Requirement

Reserved.

d. How to Earn the Label

Reserved.

e. Allowed Exceptions to an ENERGY STAR® Building Label

Reserved.

f. Documenting Compliance with the Allowed Exceptions

Reserved.

g. Time of Submission of Proof or ENERGY STAR® Label

Reserved.

h. Extensions, Expansion, and Renewal Options

Reserved.

Extensions

Reserved.

Expansions

Reserved.

Renewal Options

Reserved.

i. Succeeding/Superseding Leases

Reserved.

j. ENERGY STAR® Tools and Resources

Reserved.

k. Hydrology Requirements

Reserved.

Part 4: Third-Party Green Rating Certification Requirements

Reserved.

a. New Construction

Reserved.

b. Tenant Interiors

Reserved.

Part 5: Green Lease Audit Guiding Principle Alignment

Reserved.

a. Guiding Principle Alignment by Green Building Certifications

Reserved.

b. Guiding Principle Alignment by Inclusion of Green Paragraphs

Reserved.

Part 6: Hazardous Materials

Reserved.

a. Polychlorinated Biphenyls (PCBs) and Lead Products

Reserved.

b. Radon in Air and Water

Reserved.

c. Asbestos

Reserved.

d. Mold

Reserved.

Part 7: Other Sustainable Lease Requirements

Reserved.

a. Indoor Air Quality

Reserved.

Indoor Air Quality During Construction

Reserved.

b. Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning

Reserved.

c. Water Conservation and Water Quality

Reserved.

d. Recycling and Construction Waste Management

Reserved.

e. Acoustic Standards

Reserved.

f. New Lease Construction – International Energy Conservation Code (IECC) and ASHRAE Standard 90.1

Reserved.

g. Electric Vehicle Supply Equipment Guidance

Reserved.

Attachment 1: ENERGY STAR® Process Flowchart

Reserved.