EFCOG BEST PRACTICE #27
Template for Sustainable Design Standards
April 2004

Facility: Idaho National Engineering and Environmental Laboratory

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BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF BEST PRACTICE:


As relatively cost neutral standards, the Template helps sites balance the priorities of cost and environmental health. Many of the standards contained in the Template lead to energy or water conservation which implies less impact on the global environment and lower operating costs. Other standards in the Template lead to reduction of pollutants in the indoor environment, improving the health and safety of occupants.

The standards in the Template are safety related, since they are designed to reduce negative impacts on the environment. The Template identifies safety standards to improve DOE sites.

WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF THE BEST PRACTICE:

The Template for Sustainable Design Standards provides sustainable design standards for incorporation into design guidelines or architectural/engineering standards at individual DOE sites. The purpose of this template is to provide high level, global standards that will enhance sustainable construction if used at DOE sites.

The template is limited to cost-neutral or low cost standards that should become normal practice. DOE sites are welcome to adapt all or portions of the entries into site-specific design standards, or sites can re-write as construction specification, i.e., “shall” or “will” replaces “consider” and “should.”

Excluded from this template are specifications specific to energy efficiency and conservation since it is assumed that all sites already have viable energy standards.

DESCRIPTION OF PROCESS EXPERIENCE USING THE BEST PRACTICE:

The bulk of the sustainable standards included in the Template came from these sources:

1. Design Guideline, National Renewable Energy Laboratory, April 2002
8. DOE-ID Architectural Engineering Standards, Idaho National Engineering and Environmental Laboratory, November 2001

The distribution of the contributions from these twelve sources to the topics in the Template is shown in the Table below.

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Since most of the references represent standards already in place and in practice at DOE sites, implementation is already occurring throughout the complex. The Template will result in even broader application across the complex.