

The Private Sector uses LEED and so should the Federal Government

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Written by [Lisa Stanley](#)

Posted in [Advocacy and policy](#)

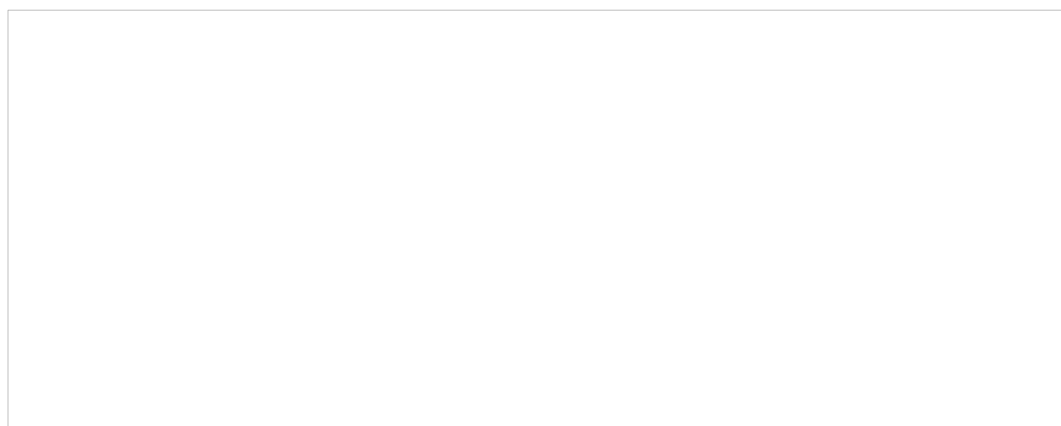
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LEED in motion

It's simple, really. There's nothing else like LEED to advance green building, whether you are a Fortune 100 company or the U.S. General Services Administration. If you're serious about saving money, saving energy, reducing water, improving indoor air quality, making better material choices, and driving innovation, then LEED is the best choice, bar none. There's nothing else even close.

That's exactly what we told the General Services Administration earlier today. In response to [GSA's request for information](#) (RFI) on green building rating systems, which closed today, we told GSA how LEED has been and continues to be invaluable to thousands of building professionals and why it has been successful at driving a booming green building industry. Clearly, our voluntary, consensus-driven LEED certification program is the best choice for the GSA to retain its status as a leader in energy and sustainability. Anything less isn't leadership.

There is political pressure on GSA to not use LEED from certain trade associations that want more points for their industries at the expense of others, but the choice is clear. In a letter to GSA in July of 2012, 1,260 companies from the green building industry opposed deviating from LEED in federal facilities because such a change would "add cost to the building and leasing process across the building industry."^[1] We believe that following the private sector's market-tested best practices is smart business. They choose LEED for a reason. Just as LEED is the best choice for the private sector, it is the best option for the GSA and any governmental actor looking to advance the triple bottomline benefits of green building.

The main reason is that LEED isn't just a rating system, it's also an extensive infrastructure designed to support green building across every facet of the industry. Behind each LEED plaque is a dynamic interaction between the technical development process, education and professional infrastructure, online review process, diverse industry representation, customer service infrastructure, on-going analytical capabilities, and proven performance.

LEED is driving the green building movement — absolutely unmatched by any other available tool.

To see why LEED is the only rating system diverse and dynamic enough to continue to drive market transformation, check out our latest infographic that shows [LEED in motion](#).

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