



Iowa Utilities Board NEWS

Elizabeth S. Jacobs, Chair Darrell Hanson, Member Swati A. Dandekar, Member

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Contact: Rob Hillesland, 515.725.7322 or rob.hillesland@iub.iowa.gov

Iowa Utilities Board-Office of Consumer Advocate building receives LEED® Platinum rating

(Des Moines) – The model energy efficient office building of the Iowa Utilities Board and the Office of Consumer Advocate has been awarded LEED® Platinum Certification established by the [U.S. Green Building Council](#) and verified by the Green Building Certification Institute. Participation in the LEED process demonstrates leadership, innovation, environmental stewardship, and social responsibility, with LEED Platinum representing the highest international standard.

The Iowa Utilities Board-Office of Consumer Advocate building is the first state government agency structure in Iowa to be certified LEED Platinum. A public LEED dedication ceremony is also being planned for early in 2013.

Since opening at the Southeast corner of the Downtown Des Moines Capitol Complex in January of 2011, the building has demonstrated proven and cost-effective energy efficient measures. Its first-year energy use was 22.4 kbtu per square foot and its net energy use, accounting for rooftop solar generation, was just 20.5 kbtu. A typical office building of similar size, compliant with the Iowa Energy Code, uses about 3.4 times more, or an estimated 70.0 kbtu annually.

The building project was previously honored with the Top Ten Green Building Award from the American Institute of Architects (AIA) Committee on the Environment, the AIA Central States Region Merit Award, AIA Iowa Merit Award, AIA Kansas Merit Award, AIA Kansas City Merit Award, and the Des Moines' Environmental Impact Awards.

BNIM Architects designed the building and continues to work with the Board and Consumer Advocate to showcase and promote the project's energy efficient and environmentally sound features. The general contractor was J.P. Cullen of Janesville, Wisconsin.

For additional information, visit the Iowa Utilities Board web site <http://iub.iowa.gov>. The public is also encouraged to visit. To schedule a tour or learn more, please contact Judi K. Cooper at (515) 725-7312.

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The Iowa Utilities Board regulates utilities to ensure that reasonably priced, reliable, environmentally responsible, and safe utility services are available to all Iowans.