

**ADOPTED REGULATION OF
THE DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF ENERGY**

LCB File No. R116-07

Effective December 4, 2007

EXPLANATION – Matter in *italics* is new; matter in brackets ~~[omitted material]~~ is material to be omitted.

AUTHORITY: §§1-30, NRS 701A.100 (Section 2 of Assembly Bill No. 621 of the 74th Session of the Nevada Legislature) and 701A.110 (Section 3 of Assembly Bill No. 621 of the 74th Session of the Nevada Legislature), and Section 15.5 of Assembly Bill No. 621 of the 74th Session of the Nevada Legislature; §31, NRS 701.170.

A REGULATION relating to energy; adopting certain portions of the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design Green Building Rating System for the purposes of determining eligibility for partial abatements from taxes imposed on real property; specifying the requirements for applying for a partial tax abatement; providing for the issuance by the Director of the Office of Energy of a certificate of eligibility for a partial tax abatement; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Section 1. Chapter 701A of NAC is hereby amended by adding thereto the provisions set forth as sections 2 to 30, inclusive, of this regulation.

Sec. 2. *As used in sections 2 to 30, inclusive, of this regulation, unless the context otherwise requires, the words and terms defined in sections 3 to 20, inclusive, of this regulation have the meanings ascribed to them in those sections.*

Sec. 3. *“Applicable LEED standard” means the version of the LEED standard in effect at the time an applicant registers a project with the U.S. Green Building Council.*

Sec. 4. *“Building or other structure” means an improvement on real property that is being considered for or has been granted certification by the U.S. Green Building Council.*

Sec. 5. *“Construction contract” means a contract between an owner of real property or an affiliate or subsidiary of the owner, and a contractor or construction manager which:*

1. Defines their respective roles and responsibilities for the construction of a project on the property;

2. Establishes the scope of work, the amount of money to be paid to the contractor or construction manager and the allowable time for the duration of the contract; and

3. Describes the terms and conditions of a construction project.

Sec. 6. "Director" means the Director of the Office of Energy within the Office of the Governor.

Sec. 7. "Funding" includes, without limitation, equity, any form of indebtedness, any grant, any gift or anything else of value.

Sec. 8. "LEED" means Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design.

Sec. 9. "LEED accredited professional" means a person who holds a LEED Accredited Professional Certificate issued by the U.S. Green Building Council.

Sec. 10. "LEED-CS" means the LEED Green Building Rating System for Core and Shell Development.

Sec. 11. "LEED-EB" means the LEED Green Building Rating System for Existing Buildings, Upgrades, Operations and Maintenance.

Sec. 12. "LEED Green Building Rating System" means those portions of the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design Green Building Rating System developed by the U.S. Green Building Council that are adopted by the Director pursuant to section 21 of this regulation.

Sec. 13. "LEED-NC" means the LEED Green Building Rating System for New Construction & Major Renovations.

Sec. 14. *“LEED standard” means all versions of a specific rating system within the LEED Green Building Rating System, including, without limitation, LEED-NC, LEED-EB and LEED-CS.*

Sec. 15. *“Local government approval” means any document which, in the judgment of the Director, demonstrates that the local government in which a construction project is located has granted approval to begin construction of the building or other structure that is the subject of an application for a partial tax abatement.*

Sec. 16. *“Partial tax abatement” means a partial abatement from the taxes imposed on real property by chapter 361 of NRS.*

Sec. 17. *“Pre-2007 applicant” means an applicant for a partial tax abatement for a construction project that includes a building or other structure:*

1. Which is constructed pursuant to a preconstruction or construction contract executed on or before December 31, 2005;

2. Which is part of a construction project for which the Office of Energy Project Registration Form was filed with and received by the Office of Energy pursuant to the provisions of former NAC 701.480; and

3. For which an opinion letter was issued by the Department of Taxation before February 1, 2007, stating that the project will qualify for a partial sales and use tax exemption under Assembly Bill No. 3 (Special Session 2005) if certain conditions are met.

Sec. 18. *“Pre-2007 Green Building Rating System” means the LEED Green Building Rating System adopted by the Director pursuant to the provisions of former NRS 701.217, as that rating system existed before June 15, 2007, including the provisions of the regulations that are repealed by section 31 of this regulation.*

Sec. 19. *“Preconstruction contract” means a written and executed agreement that:*

1. Precedes the construction of or the execution of a construction contract for a project for which a partial tax abatement is sought;

2. Clearly indicates a commitment to construct the project; and

3. Is entered into to provide at least one of the following services relating to the construction project:

(a) Project financing;

(b) Engineering;

(c) Design;

(d) Architecture;

(e) Labor; or

(f) Subcontracting.

Sec. 20. *“Significant change in the scope of the project” means:*

1. A change by more than 10 percent in the gross square footage of any building or other structure for which a partial tax abatement is sought;

2. A change in the level of LEED certification being sought if the change will affect the amount of the partial tax abatement being sought; or

3. Any other change, including, without limitation, any change in the square footage or estimated costs of any building or other structure for which a partial tax abatement is sought, which will change the amount of the partial tax abatement being sought by more than 10 percent, except that changes resulting from increases in square footage, costs or any other factor affecting the amount of the partial tax abatement relating to the project as represented in the application therefor, including any amendments or disputed claims with a contractor or

supplier relating to those costs, will not be considered a significant change in the scope of the project until they are reasonably final and known to the owner.

Sec. 21. 1. *The LEED Green Building Rating System is adopted for use in this State with regard to certain buildings or other structures for the purposes of determining eligibility for partial tax abatements.*

2. Except as otherwise provided in this subsection and section 22 of this regulation:

(a) The Director hereby adopts by reference all versions of the following LEED standards:

(1) LEED-NC;

(2) LEED-EB; and

(3) LEED-CS.

(b) If the U.S. Green Building Council adopts a new or updated version of a LEED standard after the effective date of this regulation, the Director will determine whether the new or updated version is appropriate for use in this State and, if the Director determines that the new or updated version:

(1) Is appropriate for use in this State:

(I) The new or updated version becomes effective on such a date as may be determined by the Director; and

(II) The Director will post a notice of approval, a copy of the new or updated version and the effective date thereof at the State Library and Archives and the Office of Energy, and on the Internet website of the Office of Energy; or

(2) Not to be appropriate for use in this State, the version of the LEED standard that was most recently adopted by the Director or determined to be appropriate for use in this State pursuant to this subsection continues to be effective.

3. The Director will review, evaluate and consider new and updated versions of LEED standards at least once each year.

4. A copy of the LEED Green Building Rating System is available free of charge on the Internet website of the U.S. Green Building Council.

Sec. 22. 1. *In accordance with the provisions of NRS 701A.100 (section 2 of Assembly Bill No. 621 of the 74th Session of the Nevada Legislature), the LEED Green Building Rating System adopted by the Director pursuant to section 21 of this regulation:*

(a) Does not include any LEED standard:

(1) That has not been included in the LEED Green Building Rating System for at least 2 years at the time the applicant provides proof to the Director pursuant to sections 25 and 26 of this regulation that the building or other structure meets the equivalent of the silver level or higher of the LEED Green Building Rating System adopted by the Director; or

(2) For homes.

(b) Shall be deemed to require a building or other structure to obtain:

(1) At least 3 points for energy conservation under the LEED Green Building Rating System Energy and Atmosphere Credit 1 (Optimize Energy Performance), to meet the equivalent of the silver level;

(2) At least 5 points for energy conservation under the LEED Green Building Rating System Energy and Atmosphere Credit 1 (Optimize Energy Performance), to meet the equivalent of the gold level; and

(3) At least 8 points for energy conservation under the LEED Green Building Rating System Energy and Atmosphere Credit 1 (Optimize Energy Performance), to meet the equivalent of the platinum level.

2. *An applicant for a partial tax abatement must utilize an independent third-party commissioning firm to facilitate the fundamental building systems commissioning or existing building commissioning, as applicable, required by the LEED Green Building Rating System Energy and Atmosphere Prerequisite 1.*

3. *As used in this section, “home” has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 701A.100 (section 2 of Assembly Bill No. 621 of the 74th Session of the Nevada Legislature).*

Sec. 23. *1. A person who, with respect to a construction project involving a building or other structure, wishes to apply to the Director pursuant to this chapter and NRS 701A.110 (section 3 of Assembly Bill No. 621 of the 74th Session of the Nevada Legislature) for a partial tax abatement must, if the certification of the building or other structure:*

(a) Will be based on LEED-NC or LEED-CS, submit an application to the Office of Energy on a form prescribed by the Director within 120 days after receiving local government approval of the construction project; or

(b) Will not be based on LEED-NC or LEED-CS, submit an application to the Office of Energy on a form prescribed by the Director within 120 days after registering the project with the U.S. Green Building Council.

2. The application must include:

(a) The name, address and telephone number of the applicant;

(b) The name and address of the owner of the affected real property, if the applicant is not the owner;

(c) The address of the real property;

(d) The address of the board of county commissioners of the county in which the real property is located;

(e) If the real property is located in a city, the name and address of the city manager and the address of the city council, if any, of that city;

(f) Any project title associated with the development or modification of the real property;

(g) For each building or other structure included within the construction project:

(1) The estimated gross square footage and number of floors of the building or other structure;

(2) The proposed use of the building or other structure;

(3) The estimated cost of the design and construction or retrofit, and maintenance and operation, of the building or other structure;

(4) The actual or estimated date of the start of the construction or retrofit;

(5) The expected date of occupancy of the building or other structure;

(6) If applicable, a copy of each executed preconstruction or construction contract the applicant is relying upon to qualify as a pre-2007 applicant;

(7) Proof that the building or other structure has been registered with the U.S. Green Building Council;

(8) The applicable LEED standard on which the certification of the building or other structure will be based;

(9) A statement containing the level and number of points of the applicable LEED standard at which the applicant expects the building or other structure to be certified, in the form of a checklist identifying the specific LEED credits that the project team intends to achieve;

(10) A statement whether any funding for the acquisition, design or construction of the building or other structure, and associated land, is being provided by a governmental entity in this State;

(11) A list of all sources of funding for the acquisition, design or construction of the building or other structure, and associated land, provided by a governmental entity in this State; and

(12) A statement whether the building or other structure is receiving or is expected to receive any other abatement or exemption pursuant to NRS 361.045 to 361.159, inclusive, or chapter 701A of NRS from the taxes imposed on real property by chapter 361 of NRS;

(h) The name and contact information of the LEED accredited professional assigned to the design team for the project or other person designated as the contact person on the application;

(i) A statement whether the building or other structure, or any part thereof, is or is expected in the future to be exempt from the taxes imposed on real property by chapter 361 of NRS pursuant to any provision of law other than NRS 361.045 to 361.159, inclusive, or chapter 701A of NRS;

(j) A list of any improvements in the project that are not expected to be considered for LEED certification;

(k) If the project is registered with the U.S. Green Building Council in a campus or multi-building setting, a list of the buildings or other structures on the affected real property and the construction phases of each building or other structure;

(l) A copy of the local government approval of the construction project; and

(m) Any other information requested by the Director.

3. *Upon receipt of all information required by this section, the Director will:*

(a) Notify the applicant in writing acknowledging that the application has been received;

and

(b) In accordance with the provisions of NRS 701A.110 (section 3 of Assembly Bill No. 621 of the 74th Session of the Nevada Legislature), forward a copy of the application and the written notification provided to the applicant to the:

(1) Chief of the Budget Division of the Department of Administration;

(2) Department of Taxation;

(3) County assessor;

(4) County treasurer;

(5) Board of county commissioners;

(6) City manager and city council, if any; and

(7) Commission on Economic Development.

4. *The applicant must:*

(a) Identify any information included in the application which the applicant considers to be confidential; and

(b) Promptly amend the application if there is a significant change in the scope of the project.

5. *The Director will not accept an application pursuant to this section for a building or other structure that on the date the application is registered has been issued a certificate of occupancy and has been certified by the U.S. Green Building Council.*

Sec. 24. 1. *If an application for a partial tax abatement is submitted for a project that has not been completed on the date of that submission and there is a significant change in the*

scope of the project after that date, the applicant must amend the application to include the change within 60 days after the occurrence of the change. If the applicant fails to amend the application in a timely manner, the Director may, without limitation:

(a) Allow a partial tax abatement of those portions of the project that were part of the original application, including timely amendments; or

(b) For good cause shown, extend the time within which to amend the application.

2. Upon receipt of an amendment to an application for a partial tax abatement, the Director will forward a copy of the amendment to the:

(a) Chief of the Budget Division of the Department of Administration;

(b) Department of Taxation;

(c) County assessor;

(d) County treasurer;

(e) Board of county commissioners;

(f) City manager and city council, if any; and

(g) Commission on Economic Development.

Sec. 25. 1. Within 48 months after an application for a partial tax abatement is submitted to the Director pursuant to section 23 of this regulation, or within such time as the Director, for good cause shown, extends the deadline, the applicant must submit to the Director:

(a) Proof that the building or other structure meets the equivalent of the silver level or higher of the LEED Green Building Rating System adopted by the Director; or

(b) An application to extend the period for providing such proof.

2. If an applicant has not submitted the proof or an application for extension required by subsection 1, the Director will consider the application abandoned and notify the:

- (a) Applicant;*
- (b) Chief of the Budget Division of the Department of Administration;*
- (c) Department of Taxation;*
- (d) County assessor;*
- (e) County treasurer;*
- (f) Board of county commissioners;*
- (g) City manager and city council, if any; and*
- (h) Commission on Economic Development.*

3. If the Director, after reviewing the proof submitted by the applicant pursuant to subsection 1, concludes that the building or other structure is eligible for a partial tax abatement, the Director will, not later than 120 days after receiving that proof, issue a certificate of eligibility for the abatement and provide a copy to the:

- (a) Applicant;*
- (b) Chief of the Budget Division of the Department of Administration;*
- (c) Department of Taxation;*
- (d) County assessor;*
- (e) County treasurer;*
- (f) Board of county commissioners;*
- (g) City manager and city council, if any; and*
- (h) Commission on Economic Development.*

4. The certificate of eligibility will include the duration and annual percentage of the partial tax abatement as provided in section 29 of this regulation and subsection 4 of NRS 701A.110 (section 3 of Assembly Bill No. 621 of the 74th Session of the Nevada Legislature), and identify each building or other structure to which the abatement should be applied. The Director may indicate that the abatement should be applied to an ancillary structure if the ancillary structure was specified in the application. The Director will include as part of the certificate of eligibility his findings of fact, conclusions of law and order explaining the reasons for issuing the certificate.

5. If the Director, after reviewing the proof submitted by the applicant pursuant to subsection 1, concludes that the building or other structure is not eligible for a partial tax abatement, the Director will, not later than 120 days after receiving that proof, issue a certificate of ineligibility for the abatement and provide a copy to the:

- (a) Applicant;*
- (b) Chief of the Budget Division of the Department of Administration;*
- (c) Department of Taxation;*
- (d) County assessor;*
- (e) County treasurer;*
- (f) Board of county commissioners;*
- (g) City manager and city council, if any; and*
- (h) Commission on Economic Development.*

↪ The Director will include as part of the certificate of ineligibility his findings of fact, conclusions of law and order explaining the reasons for issuing the certificate of ineligibility.

6. If a certificate of eligibility is issued:

(a) On or after July 1 and on or before March 31 of a fiscal year, the abatement becomes effective on July 1 of the immediately following fiscal year. The Director will not issue a certificate of eligibility on or before March 31 of a fiscal year with respect to an application that is not submitted to the Director on or before February 1 of that fiscal year.

(b) On or after April 1 and on or before June 30 of a fiscal year, the abatement becomes effective on July 1 of the fiscal year next following the immediately following fiscal year.

7. A certificate of eligibility or a certificate of ineligibility issued pursuant to this section is a final order of the Director for purposes of judicial review.

Sec. 26. 1. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 2, the Director will accept as proof that a building or other structure for which a partial tax abatement is sought meets the equivalent of the silver level or higher of the LEED Green Building Rating System adopted by the Director:

(a) An original or certified copy of a letter from the U.S. Green Building Council informing the applicant that the building or other structure meets the LEED silver level or higher;

(b) Official documentation issued by the U.S. Green Building Council setting forth the number of LEED points obtained by the building or other structure; or

(c) Any other information acceptable to the Director that in the judgment of the Director evidences compliance with the requirements of the LEED Green Building Rating System adopted by the Director.

2. In addition to the documentation required by subsection 1, the proof submitted pursuant to this section must include:

(a) A statement whether any funding for the acquisition, design or construction of the building or other structure, and associated land, is being provided by a governmental entity in this State;

(b) A statement whether the building or other structure is receiving or is expected to receive any other abatement or exemption pursuant to NRS 361.045 to 361.159, inclusive, or chapter 701A of NRS from the taxes imposed on real property by chapter 361 of NRS;

(c) A statement whether the building or other structure, or any part thereof, is or is expected in the future to be exempt from the taxes imposed on real property by chapter 361 of NRS pursuant to any provision of law other than NRS 361.045 to 361.159, inclusive, or chapter 701A of NRS;

(d) An overall project narrative;

(e) The documentation submitted to the U.S. Green Building Council to obtain points for water efficiency under the LEED Green Building Rating System;

(f) For pre-2007 applicants:

(1) The documentation submitted to the U.S. Green Building Council to comply with the LEED Green Building Rating System Energy and Atmosphere Prerequisite 2 (Minimum Energy Performance); or

(2) Any documentation that, in the judgment of the Director, demonstrates the energy efficiencies achieved through compliance with the LEED Green Building Rating System Energy and Atmosphere Prerequisite 2 (Minimum Energy Performance); and

(g) For applicants other than pre-2007 applicants:

(1) The documentation submitted to the U.S. Green Building Council to obtain points under the LEED Green Building Rating System Energy and Atmosphere Credit 1 (Optimize

Energy Performance), including, without limitation, any pertinent information regarding general building energy model, energy performance, building energy performance baseline, baseline and proposed design input parameters, baseline performance, performance rating, percentage improvement and points achieved; or

(2) Any documentation that, in the judgment of the Director, demonstrates the energy efficiencies achieved through compliance with the LEED Green Building Rating System Energy and Atmosphere Credit 1 (Optimize Energy Performance).

Sec. 27. 1. The Director may require an applicant who has been issued a certificate of eligibility pursuant to section 25 of this regulation or the tax abatement coordinator for a building or other structure to which the certificate of eligibility relates to submit to the Director on an annual or other reasonable basis such information as the Director requires to determine whether the parcel on which the building or other structure is located is receiving another abatement or exemption pursuant to NRS 361.045 to 361.159, inclusive, or chapter 701A of NRS from the taxes imposed on real property by chapter 361 of NRS.

2. After a certificate of eligibility has been issued pursuant to section 25 of this regulation, the tax abatement coordinator for a building or other structure to which the certificate of eligibility relates:

(a) Shall:

(1) Notify the Director if the building or other structure is sold during the term of the partial tax abatement; and

(2) Provide the buyer of the building or other structure with written notice of the certificate of eligibility and a copy of the statutes and regulations regarding the owner's rights and responsibilities relating to the certificate of eligibility;

(b) Must submit to the Director as prescribed in subsection 3:

(1) Documentation of energy performance which indicates the pertinent ENERGY STAR rating or equivalent ENERGY STAR rating, annual energy reduction, annual summer peak demand reduction and, if the applicant for that certificate of eligibility:

(I) Qualified as a pre-2007 applicant, compliance with the requirements for the LEED Green Building Rating System Energy and Atmosphere Prerequisite 2 (Minimum Energy Performance); or

(II) Did not qualify as a pre-2007 applicant, compliance with the requirements for the LEED Green Building Rating System Energy and Atmosphere Credit 1 (Optimize Energy Performance);

(2) A summary of the annual utility bills, including the amount of cost and usage, for each type of energy used by the building or other structure;

(3) A summary of the annual water bills, including the amount of cost and usage, for the building or other structure; and

(4) Any documentation that, in the judgment of the Director, demonstrates compliance with the LEED Green Building Rating System; and

(c) Must submit to the Director as prescribed in subsection 3 written recertification from a third-party commissioning firm stating that the energy systems of the building or other structure are still operating in general compliance with the original project requirements, with particular focus and emphasis on certifying that the energy conservation measures upon which the original certificate of eligibility was based are still being achieved. The third-party commissioning firm providing the recertification letter should typically be the same firm that

provided the original fundamental building systems commissioning or existing building commissioning services on the project.

3. The documentation required by:

(a) Paragraph (b) of subsection 2 must be submitted on or before March 15 of the third and each subsequent year after the certificate of eligibility was issued.

(b) Paragraph (c) of subsection 2 must be submitted within 60 days after the end of the:

(1) Third year after the certificate of eligibility was issued if the duration of the partial tax abatement is 5 or 6 years;

(2) Third and fifth years after the certificate of eligibility was issued if the duration of the partial tax abatement is 7 or 8 years; and

(3) Third, fifth and seventh years after the certificate of eligibility was issued if the duration of the partial tax abatement is 9 or 10 years.

4. Upon determining that the parcel on which the building or other structure is located is receiving another abatement or exemption pursuant to NRS 361.045 to 361.159, inclusive, or chapter 701A of NRS from the taxes imposed on real property by chapter 361 of NRS, the Director will notify the owner of the building or other structure and the Department of Taxation in writing that the certificate of eligibility relating to the building or other structure has been suspended, and indicate the term of the suspension.

5. Upon determining that the building or other structure may have ceased to qualify for the level of certification for which the partial tax abatement was issued, or that the owner of the building or other structure may have failed to comply with any conditions imposed by the Director in issuing the partial tax abatement, the Director will notify the owner of the building or other structure of the findings of the Director and provide the owner a reasonable

opportunity to cure any noncompliance issues included in the findings. If the owner fails to cure the noncompliance issues within the time or in accordance with the terms provided by the Director, the Director will issue a certificate of termination or reduction of eligibility, including his findings of fact, conclusions of law and order, which declares that the building or other structure has ceased to meet the standard upon which the certificate of eligibility was based, specifies the areas of noncompliance, and terminates the partial tax abatement or reduces the partial tax abatement to the level of certification for which the building or other structure qualifies. The Director will provide a copy of the certificate of termination or reduction of eligibility to the:

- (a) Owner of the building or other structure;*
- (b) Chief of the Budget Division of the Department of Administration;*
- (c) Department of Taxation;*
- (d) County assessor;*
- (e) County treasurer;*
- (f) Board of county commissioners;*
- (g) City manager and city council, if any; and*
- (h) Commission on Economic Development.*

6. A certificate of termination or reduction of eligibility issued pursuant to this section is a final order of the Director for purposes of judicial review.

7. For the purposes of this section:

(a) On or before the date of submission to the Director of proof that a building or other structure meets the equivalent of the silver level or higher of the LEED Green Building Rating System adopted by the Director, the applicant for a partial tax abatement shall designate a tax

abatement coordinator for the building or other structure, and submit the name and address of the tax abatement coordinator to the Director; and

(b) Within 60 days after:

(1) The sale or other transfer of ownership of the building or other structure during the term of the partial tax abatement, the purchaser or other transferee shall designate a tax abatement coordinator for the building or other structure, and submit the name and address of the tax abatement coordinator to the Director; and

(2) The designation of any successor tax abatement coordinator for the building or other structure during the term of the partial tax abatement, the successor shall submit his name and address to the Director.

Sec. 28. 1. *The owner of a building or other structure included in a construction project which was registered with the Office of Energy before June 15, 2007, for a partial tax abatement may submit an application to the Director pursuant to section 23 of this regulation upon providing proof to the Director that the owner qualifies as a pre-2007 applicant. Upon determining that the owner qualifies as a pre-2007 applicant, the Director will expedite the processing of the application and apply all the provisions of sections 2 to 30, inclusive, of this regulation, except that:*

(a) The owner is not required to submit the application within 120 days after receiving local government approval of the construction project or registering the project with the U.S. Green Building Council;

(b) The Director will base his determination of eligibility on the Pre-2007 Green Building Rating System;

(c) Any partial tax abatement will be:

(1) Based on the provisions of section 15.5 of Assembly Bill No. 621 of the 74th Session of the Nevada Legislature; and

(2) Limited to any building or other structure that, in the judgment of the Director, is reasonably related to any preconstruction or construction contracts submitted as proof that the owner qualifies as a pre-2007 applicant; and

(d) For the purposes of sections 2 to 30, inclusive, of this regulation, “funding” shall be deemed to mean any cash or cash equivalent, including any loan or bond, except a private activity bond.

2. The owner of a building or other structure included in a construction project which was registered with the Office of Energy before June 15, 2007, for a partial tax abatement that does not qualify as a pre-2007 applicant may submit an application to the Director pursuant to section 23 of this regulation. The Director will expedite the processing of the application.

Sec. 29. *If the Director issues a certificate of eligibility pursuant to section 25 of this regulation for a building or other structure that meets the equivalent of the silver level or higher of the LEED Green Building Rating System adopted by the Director, the Director will set the duration of the partial tax abatement for the building or other structure, based upon the number of points awarded by the U.S. Green Building Council for energy conservation under the LEED Green Building Rating System Energy and Atmosphere Credit 1 (Optimize Energy Performance), as provided in the following table:*

<i>LEED Certification Level</i>	<i>1-2 points for Energy Conservation from U.S.G.B.C.</i>	<i>3 points for Energy Conservation from U.S.G.B.C.</i>	<i>4 points for Energy Conservation from U.S.G.B.C.</i>	<i>5 points for Energy Conservation from U.S.G.B.C.</i>	<i>6 points for Energy Conservation from U.S.G.B.C.</i>	<i>7 points for Energy Conservation from U.S.G.B.C.</i>	<i>8-10 points for Energy Conservation from U.S.G.B.C.</i>
<i>Silver</i>	<i>No abatement</i>	<i>25 percent abatement</i>	<i>25 percent abatement</i>	<i>25 percent abatement</i>	<i>25 percent abatement</i>	<i>25 percent abatement</i>	<i>25 percent abatement</i>

		<i>for 5 years</i>	<i>for 6 years</i>	<i>for 7 years</i>	<i>for 8 years</i>	<i>for 9 years</i>	<i>for 10 years</i>
<i>Gold</i>	<i>No abatement</i>	<i>25 percent abatement for 5 years</i>	<i>25 percent abatement for 6 years</i>	<i>30 percent abatement for 7 years</i>	<i>30 percent abatement for 8 years</i>	<i>30 percent abatement for 9 years</i>	<i>30 percent abatement for 10 years</i>
<i>Platinum</i>	<i>No abatement</i>	<i>25 percent abatement for 5 years</i>	<i>25 percent abatement for 6 years</i>	<i>30 percent abatement for 7 years</i>	<i>30 percent abatement for 8 years</i>	<i>30 percent abatement for 9 years</i>	<i>35 percent abatement for 10 years</i>

Sec. 30. *The Director may waive one or more of the requirements of this chapter applicable to an applicant for a partial tax abatement if:*

1. The applicant would have been able to comply with the requirement on or after June 15, 2007, if the form for application pursuant to this chapter had been available and the provisions of this chapter had been effective on that date; and

2. In the judgment of the Director, the failure to waive the requirement would produce an unjust result.

Sec. 31. LCB File No. R025-06, which was codified as NAC 701.400, 701.410, 701.420, 701.430, 701.440, 701.450, 701.460, 701.470, 701.480 and 701.490, LCB File No. R170-06 and LCB File No. T006-06 are hereby repealed.

TEXT OF REPEALED SECTIONS

701.400 Definitions. As used in NAC 701.400 to 701.490, inclusive, unless the context otherwise requires, the words and terms defined in NAC 701.410 to 701.450, inclusive, have the meanings ascribed to them in those sections.

701.410 “LEED” defined. “LEED” means Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design.

701.420 “LEED accredited professional” defined. “LEED accredited professional” means a person who holds a LEED Accredited Professional Certificate issued by the U.S. Green Building Council.

701.430 “LEED-EB” defined. “LEED-EB” means the LEED Green Building Rating System for Existing Buildings, Upgrades, Operations and Maintenance.

701.440 “LEED Green Building Rating System” defined. “LEED Green Building Rating System” means those portions of the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design Green Building Rating System developed by the U.S. Green Building Council that are adopted by the Director by reference pursuant to NAC 701.460.

701.450 “LEED-NC” defined. “LEED-NC” means the LEED Green Building Rating System for New Construction & Major Renovations.

701.460 LEED Green Building Rating System: Adoption of certain portions by reference; use; effect of updates.

1. Pursuant to paragraph (b) of subsection 1 of NRS 701.217, the Director hereby adopts by reference the following portions of the LEED Green Building Rating System:

- (a) Version 2 of LEED-EB; and
- (b) Versions 2.1 and 2.2 of LEED-NC.

2. The LEED Green Building Rating System is adopted for use in this State with regard to buildings or structures that are not public buildings or structures for the purposes of determining eligibility for tax abatements or tax exemptions that are authorized by law to use such a Green Building Rating System.

3. If the U.S. Green Building Council adopts an updated version of the LEED Green Building Rating System, the updated version shall be deemed to have been determined by the Director to be appropriate for use in this State, effective 10 days after the date on which the updated version is published, unless the Director determines that the updated version is not appropriate for use in this State. If the Director determines that the updated version is not appropriate for use in this State, the Director will post a notice of disapproval at the largest public library in each county, the State Library and Archives, the Grant Sawyer Office Building located at 555 East Washington Avenue, Las Vegas, Nevada, and the Office of Energy.

4. If the Director determines that an updated version of the LEED Green Building Rating System is not appropriate for use in this State:

(a) The Director will adopt an alternative Green Building Rating System and certification process; and

(b) The version of the LEED Green Building Rating System that was most recently adopted by the Director by regulation or deemed appropriate for use in this State pursuant to this section will continue in effect until the alternative rating system and certification process adopted by the Director become effective.

5. A copy of the LEED Green Building Rating System may be obtained at no cost from the U.S. Green Building Council, 1015 18th Street, N.W., Suite 508, Washington, D.C. 20036, or on the Internet at <http://www.usgbc.org>.

701.470 Annual review and evaluation of Green Building Rating Systems. The Director will review, evaluate and consider new LEED designations and updates and other Green Building Rating Systems at least once each year.

701.480 Registration of construction project to obtain partial abatement of property tax and partial sales tax exemption.

1. A person who, with respect to a construction project involving a building or other structure, wishes to apply to the Commission on Economic Development pursuant to NRS 361.0775, and any regulations adopted pursuant thereto, for a partial abatement from the tax imposed on real property by chapter 361 of NRS, or wishes to seek authorization from the Department of Taxation for a partial sales tax exemption on products or materials used in the construction project in accordance with the former provisions of NRS 374.307, as amended by section 7 of chapter 2, Statutes of Nevada 2005, 22nd Special Session, at page 71, must register the project with the Office of Energy before construction is begun unless the Director provides written approval for a later registration.

2. To register a project with the Office of Energy, the registrant must provide:

- (a) The name, address and telephone number of the registrant;
- (b) The name and address of the owner of the affected real property, if the registrant is not the owner;
- (c) The address of the real property;
- (d) Any project title associated with the development or modification of the real property;
- (e) The applicable LEED Green Building Rating System and version on which the certification of the building or other structure will be based;
- (f) The level and number of points of the applicable LEED Green Building Rating System at which the registrant expects the building or other structure to be certified;
- (g) The expected date of occupancy of the building or other structure;
- (h) The gross square footage of the building or other structure;

(i) The proposed use of the building or other structure;

(j) Proof that the project has been registered with the U.S. Green Building Council;

(k) If applicable, the name and contact information of the LEED accredited professional assigned to the design team for the project;

(l) If the registrant is seeking authorization from the Department of Taxation for a partial sales tax exemption on products or materials used in the construction project in accordance with the former provisions of NRS 374.307, as amended by section 7 of chapter 2, Statutes of Nevada 2005, 22nd Special Session, at page 71, an evaluation from a LEED accredited professional that includes:

(1) A statement that he has reviewed the plans, design documentation and specifications for the project; and

(2) His opinion as to the probability that the building or other structure will be certified at the silver level or higher of the applicable LEED Green Building Rating System; and

(m) Any other information requested by the Director.

3. Upon the receipt of all information required by this section, the Director will:

(a) Notify the registrant in writing acknowledging that the registration is complete; and

(b) Forward a copy of the registration and the written notification provided to the registrant

to:

(1) The Executive Director of the Department of Taxation;

(2) The Executive Director of the Commission on Economic Development; and

(3) The treasurer of the county in which the real property is located.

701.490 Notification of certification of structure at silver level or higher; issuance of letter of verification.

1. Upon receipt of certification from the U.S. Green Building Council, the registrant shall notify the Director whether the building or other structure has been certified at the silver level or higher of the applicable LEED Green Building Rating System and, if so, provide a copy of the certification from the U.S. Green Building Council, including the number of LEED points earned.

2. Upon receipt of verification that the building or other structure has been certified at the silver level or higher of the applicable LEED Green Building Rating System, the Director will issue a letter of verification which states that the real property for which the real property tax abatement or sales tax exemption is sought has a building or other structure that meets or exceeds the certification requirements for the abatement as set forth in NRS 361.0775, and any regulations adopted pursuant thereto, or for the exemption in accordance with the former provisions of NRS 374.307, as amended by section 7 of chapter 2, Statutes of Nevada 2005, 22nd Special Session, at page 71, and which sets forth the number of LEED points earned. The Director will forward a copy of the letter to:

- (a) The registrant;
- (b) The Executive Director of the Department of Taxation;
- (c) The Executive Director of the Commission on Economic Development; and
- (d) The treasurer of the county in which the real property is located.

LCB File No. R170-06:

Section 1. Section 8 of LCB File No. R025-06, which was adopted by the Director of the Office of Energy and which was filed with the Secretary of State on June 28, 2006, is hereby amended to read as follows:

Sec. 8. 1. ~~[Pursuant]~~ *Except as otherwise provided in subsection 6, pursuant* to paragraph (b) of subsection 1 of NRS 701.217, the Director hereby adopts by reference the following portions of the LEED Green Building Rating System:

- (a) Version 2 of LEED-EB; and
- (b) Versions 2.1 and 2.2 of LEED-NC.

2. The LEED Green Building Rating System is adopted for use in this State with regard to buildings or structures that are not public buildings or structures for the purposes of determining eligibility for tax abatements or tax exemptions that are authorized by law to use such a Green Building Rating System.

3. If the U.S. Green Building Council adopts an updated version of the LEED Green Building Rating System, the updated version shall be deemed to have been determined by the Director to be appropriate for use in this State, effective 10 days after the date on which the updated version is published, unless the Director determines that the updated version is not appropriate for use in this State. If the Director determines that the updated version is not appropriate for use in this State, the Director will post a notice of disapproval at the largest public library in each county, the State Library and Archives, the Grant Sawyer Office Building located at 555 East Washington Avenue, Las Vegas, Nevada, and the Office of Energy.

4. If the Director determines that an updated version of the LEED Green Building Rating System is not appropriate for use in this State:

- (a) The Director will adopt an alternative Green Building Rating System and certification process; and

(b) The version of the LEED Green Building Rating System that was most recently adopted by the Director by regulation or deemed appropriate for use in this State pursuant to this section will continue in effect until the alternative rating system and certification process adopted by the Director become effective.

5. A copy of the LEED Green Building Rating System may be obtained at no cost from the U.S. Green Building Council, 1015 18th Street, N.W., Suite 508, Washington, D.C. 20036, or on the Internet at .

6. The Director hereby adopts an exception to the LEED Green Building Rating System for buildings or other structures that are affected by the provisions of NRS 202.2483. If such a building or other structure does not qualify for certification under the LEED Green Building Rating System solely because of its failure to satisfy the requirements of the LEED Green Building Rating System relating to the control of environmental tobacco smoke, the building or other structure shall be deemed to have received such certification.

Sec. 2. Section 10 of LCB File No. R025-06, which was adopted by the Director of the Office of Energy and which was filed with the Secretary of State on June 28, 2006, is hereby amended to read as follows:

Sec. 10. 1. A person who, with respect to a construction project involving a building or other structure, wishes to apply to the Commission on Economic Development pursuant to NRS 361.0775, and any regulations adopted pursuant thereto, for a partial abatement from the tax imposed on real property by chapter 361 of NRS, or wishes to seek authorization from the Department of Taxation for a partial sales tax exemption on products or materials used in the construction project in accordance with

the former provisions of NRS 374.307, as amended by section 7 of chapter 2, Statutes of Nevada 2005, 22nd Special Session, at page 71, must register the project with the Office of Energy before construction is begun unless the Director provides written approval for a later registration.

2. To register a project with the Office of Energy, the registrant must provide:

(a) The name, address and telephone number of the registrant;

(b) The name and address of the owner of the affected real property, if the registrant is not the owner;

(c) The address of the real property;

(d) Any project title associated with the development or modification of the real property;

(e) The applicable LEED Green Building Rating System and version on which the certification of the building or other structure will be based;

(f) The level and number of points of the applicable LEED Green Building Rating System at which the registrant expects the building or other structure to be certified ~~to~~ ***or, if the building or other structure is subject to the provisions of subsection 6 of section 8 of LCB File No. R025-06, as amended by section 1 of this regulation, to be used for the purposes of determining eligibility for the tax abatement or tax exemption;***

(g) The expected date of occupancy of the building or other structure;

(h) The gross square footage of the building or other structure;

(i) The proposed use of the building or other structure;

(j) Proof that the project has been registered with the U.S. Green Building Council;

(k) If applicable, the name and contact information of the LEED accredited professional assigned to the design team for the project;

(l) If the registrant is seeking authorization from the Department of Taxation for a partial sales tax exemption on products or materials used in the construction project in accordance with the former provisions of NRS 374.307, as amended by section 7 of chapter 2, Statutes of Nevada 2005, 22nd Special Session, at page 71, an evaluation from a LEED accredited professional that includes:

(1) A statement that he has reviewed the plans, design documentation and specifications for the project; and

(2) His opinion as to the probability that the building or other structure will be certified at the silver level or higher of the applicable LEED Green Building Rating System ~~};~~ ***or, if the building or other structure is subject to the provisions of subsection 6 of section 8 of LCB File No. R025-06, as amended by section 1 of this regulation, will be deemed so certified;*** and

(m) Any other information requested by the Director.

3. Upon the receipt of all information required by this section, the Director will:

(a) Notify the registrant in writing acknowledging that the registration is complete;

and

(b) Forward a copy of the registration and the written notification provided to the registrant to:

(1) The Executive Director of the Department of Taxation;

(2) The Executive Director of the Commission on Economic Development; and

(3) The treasurer of the county in which the real property is located.

Sec. 3. Section 11 of LCB File No. R025-06, which was adopted by the Director of the Office of Energy and which was filed with the Secretary of State on June 28, 2006, is hereby amended to read as follows:

Sec. 11. 1. Upon receipt of certification from the U.S. Green Building Council, the registrant shall notify the Director whether the building or other structure ~~has~~ :

(a) *Has* been certified at the silver level or higher of the applicable LEED Green Building Rating System and, if so, provide a copy of the certification from the U.S. Green Building Council, including the number of LEED points earned ~~[-]~~ ; *or*

(b) *Is deemed to have been so certified pursuant to subsection 6 of section 8 of LCB File No. R025-06, as amended by section 1 of this regulation.*

2. Upon receipt of verification that the building or other structure has been certified at the silver level or higher of the applicable LEED Green Building Rating System ~~[-]~~ *or is deemed to have been so certified pursuant to subsection 6 of section 8 of LCB File No. R025-06, as amended by section 1 of this regulation*, the Director will issue a letter of verification which states that the real property for which the real property tax abatement or sales tax exemption is sought has a building or other structure that meets or exceeds the certification requirements for the abatement as set forth in NRS 361.0775, and any regulations adopted pursuant thereto, or for the exemption in accordance with the former provisions of NRS 374.307, as amended by section 7 of chapter 2, Statutes of Nevada 2005, 22nd Special Session, at page 71, and which sets forth the number of LEED points earned. The Director will forward a copy of the letter to:

(a) The registrant;

- (b) The Executive Director of the Department of Taxation;
- (c) The Executive Director of the Commission on Economic Development; and
- (d) The treasurer of the county in which the real property is located.

LCB File No. T006-06:

Section 1. Chapter 701 of NAC is hereby amended by adding thereto the provisions set forth as sections 2 to 12~~{4}~~, inclusive, of this regulation.

Sec. 2. As used in this chapter, unless the context otherwise requires, the words and terms defined in sections 3 to 8~~{7}~~, inclusive, of this regulation have the meanings ascribed to them in those sections.

Sec. 3. “LEED” means Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design.

Sec. 4. “LEED accredited professional” means a person who holds a LEED Accredited Professional Certificate issued by the U. S. Green Building Council.

Sec. 5. “*LEED-CS*” means the *LEED Green Building Rating System for Core and Shell Development*.

Sec. 6~~{5}~~. “LEED-EB” means the LEED Green Building Rating System for Existing Buildings, Upgrades, Operations and Maintenance.

Sec. 7~~{6}~~. “LEED Green Building Rating System” means those portions of the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design Green Building Rating System developed by the U. S. Green Building Council that are adopted by the Director by reference pursuant to section 98 of this regulation.

Sec. 8~~{7}~~. “LEED-NC” means the LEED Green Building Rating System for New Construction & Major Renovations.

Sec. 9[8]. 1. Pursuant to paragraph (b) of subsection 1 of NRS 701.217, the Director hereby adopts by reference the following portions of the LEED Green Building Rating System:

(a) Version 2 of LEED-CS; and

(b[~~a~~]) Version 2 of LEED-EB; and

(c[~~b~~]) Versions 2.1 and 2.2 of LEED-NC.

2. The LEED Green Building Rating System is adopted for use in this State with regard to buildings or structures that are not public buildings or structures for the purposes of determining eligibility for tax abatements or tax exemptions that are authorized by law to use such a Green Building Rating System.

3. If the U. S. Green Building Council adopts an updated version of the LEED Green Building Rating System, the updated version shall be deemed to have been determined by the Director to be appropriate for use in this State, effective 10 days after the date on which the updated version is published, unless the Director determines that the updated version is not appropriate for use in this State. If the Director determines that the updated version is not appropriate for use in this State, the Director will post a notice of disapproval at the largest public library in each county, the State Library and Archives, the Grant Sawyer Office Building located at 555 East Washington Avenue, Las Vegas, Nevada, and the Office of Energy.

4. If the Director determines that an updated version of the LEED Green Building Rating System is not appropriate for use in this State:

(a) The Director will adopt an alternative Green Building Rating System and certification process; and

(b) The version of the LEED Green Building Rating System that was most recently adopted by the Director by regulation or deemed appropriate for use in this State pursuant to this section will continue in effect until the alternative rating system and certification process adopted by the Director become effective.

5. A copy of the LEED Green Building Rating System may be obtained at no cost from the U. S. Green Building Council, 1015 18th Street, N.W., Suite 508, Washington, D.C. 20036, or on the Internet at <http://www.usgbc.org>.

Sec. 10[9]. The Director will review, evaluate and consider new LEED designations and updates and other Green Building Rating Systems at least once each year.

Sec. 11[0]. 1. A person who, with respect to a construction project involving a building or other structure, wishes to apply to the Commission on Economic Development pursuant to NRS 361.0775 and any regulations adopted pursuant thereto for a partial abatement from the tax imposed on real property by chapter 361 of NRS, or wishes to seek authorization from the Department of Taxation for a partial sales tax exemption on products or materials used in the construction project in accordance with the former provisions of NRS 374.307, as amended by section 7 of chapter 2, Statutes of Nevada 2005, 22nd Special Session, at page 71, must register the project with the Office of Energy before construction is begun unless the Director provides written approval for a later registration.

2. To register a project with the Office of Energy, the registrant must provide:

(a) The name, address and telephone number of the registrant;

(b) The name and address of the owner of the affected real property, if the registrant is not the owner;

(c) The address of the real property;

- (d) Any project title associated with the development or modification of the real property;
- (e) The applicable LEED Green Building Rating System and version on which the certification of the building or other structure will be based;
- (f) The level and number of points of the applicable LEED Green Building Rating System at which the registrant expects the building or other structure to be certified;
- (g) The expected date of occupancy of the building or other structure;
- (h) The gross square footage of the building or other structure;
- (i) The proposed use of the building or other structure;
- (j) Proof that the project has been registered with the U. S. Green Building Council;
- (k) If applicable, the name and contact information of the LEED accredited professional assigned to the design team for the project;
- (l) If the registrant is seeking authorization from the Department of Taxation for a partial sales tax exemption on products or materials used in the construction project in accordance with the former provisions of NRS 374.307, as amended by section 7 of chapter 2, Statutes of Nevada 2005, 22nd Special Session, at page 71, an evaluation from a LEED accredited professional that includes:
 - (1) A statement that he has reviewed the plans, design documentation and specifications for the project; and
 - (2) His opinion as to the probability that the building or other structure will be certified at the silver level or higher of the applicable LEED Green Building Rating System; and (m) Any other information requested by the Director.

3. Upon the receipt of all information required by this section, the Director will:

- (a) Notify the registrant in writing acknowledging that the registration is complete; and

(b) Forward a copy of the registration and the written notification provided to the registrant to:

- (1) The Executive Director of the Department of Taxation;
- (2) The Executive Director of the Commission on Economic Development; and
- (3) The treasurer of the county in which the real property is located.

Sec. 12H. 1. Upon receipt of certification from the U.S. Green Building Council, the registrant shall notify the Director whether the building or other structure has been certified at the silver level or higher of the applicable LEED Green Building Rating System and, if so, provide a copy of the certification from the U.S. Green Building Council, including the number of LEED points earned.

2. Upon receipt of verification that the building or other structure has been certified at the silver level or higher of the applicable LEED Green Building Rating System, the Director will issue a letter of verification which states that the real property for which the real property tax abatement or sales tax exemption is sought has a building or other structure that meets or exceeds the certification requirements for the abatement as set forth in NRS 361.0775 and any regulations adopted pursuant thereto, or for the exemption in accordance with the former provisions of NRS 374.307, as amended by section 7 of chapter 2, Statutes of Nevada 2005, 22nd Special Session, at page 71, and which sets forth the number of LEED points earned.

The Director will forward a copy of the letter to:

- (a) The registrant;
- (b) The Executive Director of the Department of Taxation;
- (c) The Executive Director of the Commission on Economic Development; and
- (d) The treasurer of the county in which the real property is located.

**NOTICE OF ADOPTION OF PROPOSED REGULATION
LCB File No. R116-07**

The Director of the Office of Energy adopted regulations assigned LCB File No. R116-07 which pertain to chapters 701 and 701A of the Nevada Administrative Code.

INFORMATIONAL STATEMENT

The following statement is submitted for adopted amendments to Nevada Administrative Code (NAC) Chapters 701 and 701A.

1. A description of how public comment was solicited, a summary of public response, and an explanation of how other interested persons may obtain a copy of the summary.

Copies of the proposed regulation, notices of workshop and notices of intent to act upon the regulation were sent by U.S. mail and email to persons who were known to have an interest in the subject of the regulations as well as any persons who had specifically requested such notice. These documents were also made available at the website of the Energy Office, <http://energy.state.nv.us/LEED/AB621.htm> , mailed to all county libraries in Nevada and posted at the following locations:

- 1) Nevada State Office of Energy, 727 Fairview, Suite F, Carson City, NV;
- 2) Nevada State Office of Energy Webpage, <http://energy.state.nv.us/LEED/AB621.htm>
- 3) Nevada State Capitol Building, 101 North Carson St., Carson City, NV;
- 4) Nevada State Public Utilities Commission, 1150 E. William Street, Carson City, NV
- 5) Public Utilities Commission of NV, 101 Convention Center Drive, Suite 250, Las Vegas, NV;
- 6) Nevada Department of Taxation, 1550 College Pkwy Suite 115, Carson City, NV;
- 7) Nevada Commission on Economic Development, 108 East Proctor, Carson City, NV
- 8) Carson City Library, 900 N. Roop Street, Carson City, NV.

The Office of Energy conducted public workshops on July 20, 2007; August 7, 2007; and October 2, 2007 via video-conference between Carson City and Las Vegas. Public comment was also solicited at a public hearing held on November 30, 2007 via video-conference between Carson City and Las Vegas. The language of the proposed regulation was amended as each subsequent workshop and public hearing was held based on comments received from interested parties, provided as part of the notices of the workshops and public hearing, and posted on the website of the Office of Energy. The written comments received from interested parties were also posted on the website.

The public response to the proposed regulation may be summarized as follows: In addition to a number of technical suggestions intended to clarify the regulation and remove ambiguity, interested parties generally supported granting tax abatement to buildings meeting LEED silver or higher standards. Some areas of concern were: Environmental tobacco smoke in the “grandfathered” or pre-2007 projects, the impact of the loss of tax revenue to local governments, the duration of the abatement, and the definitions of “preconstruction contract”, “independent

contractor”, and “good cause”. A copy of this summary and the written comments received may be obtained by calling the Nevada State Office of Energy at (775) 687-9700 or by writing to the Director at 727 Fairview Drive, Suite F, Carson City, NV 89701.

2. A statement indicating the number of persons who attended each meeting or workshop, testified at each hearing, and submitted written statements regarding the proposed regulation.

The number of persons who:	Carson City	Las Vegas
Attended workshop on 07/20/07:	23	27
Testified at workshop on 07/20/07:	3	4
Attended workshop on 08/07/07:	21	13
Testified at workshop on 08/07/07:	9	6
Attended workshop on 10/02/07:	10	13
Testified at workshop on 10/02/07:	7	5
Attended public hearing on 11/30/07:	6	8
Testified at public hearing on 11/30/07:	1	0
Submitted written comments:		32

3. A description of how comment was solicited from affected businesses, a summary of their response, and an explanation of how other interested persons may obtain a copy of the summary.

Notices of the proposed regulation were posted on the Office of Energy website and other public locations where both the public and other interested persons would have access to the information. The Office of Energy conducted public workshops on July 20, 2007, on August 7th, 2007, and on October 2, 2007, via video-conference between Carson City and Las Vegas. Public comment was also solicited at a public hearing held on November 30, 2007 via video-conference between Carson City and Las Vegas. Affected businesses were in support of the regulation, with only a few concerns regarding the definitions of: “preconstruction contract”, “independent contractor”, “campus approach”, “good cause”; and the duration of the abatement. A copy of this summary and the written comments may be obtained by calling the Nevada State Office of Energy at (775) 687-9700 or by writing to the Director at 727 Fairview Drive, Suite F, Carson City, NV 89701.

4. If the regulation was adopted without changing any part of the proposed regulation, a summary of the reasons for adopting the regulation without change. The statement should also explain the reasons for making any changes to the regulation as proposed.

There were amendments made to the regulation based upon the public comments made at the workshops and the written comments received. Amendments were made to remove ambiguity, provide clarity and better conform to the Legislature’s intent in enacting AB 621.

- 5. The estimated economic effect of the regulation on the business which it is to regulate and on the public. These must be stated separately and in each case must include:**
- a. Both adverse and beneficial effects; and**
 - b. Both immediate and long-term effects**

Businesses which it is to regulate:

This regulation was created to determine eligibility for certain tax incentives and is not a mandate on businesses. Participation in the tax rebate program is voluntary.

- 1. Both adverse and beneficial effects:
 - a. The adopted regulation does not have an adverse effect on businesses.
 - b. The adopted regulation will have the beneficial effect of encouraging the construction or retrofit of buildings that meet progressive environmental and energy efficiency standards, commonly known as “green buildings” which in turn will have beneficial effects on the environment and help reduce Nevada’s peak energy load demands. Reducing peak energy load demands should over time lower energy costs and rates paid by Nevada businesses. The adopted regulation also provides a beneficial effect by determining eligibility for certain tax abatements for buildings meeting a LEED silver rating or higher.
- 2. Both immediate and long term effects:
 - a. The immediate effects will be to encourage sustainable building practices within the private sector, as well as economic savings from certain tax abatements. Because the statute requires a more generous tax abatement for certain projects (pre-2007 applicants) that were underway at the time AB 621 became effective than those projects which will apply for the property tax abatement after passage of AB 621, the adopted regulation may result in a greater reduction in property tax revenue during the term of those initial abatements.
 - b. Long term effects will include a savings in energy and money for the businesses as well as reduction of grid based energy purchases. Generally, the adopted regulation is expected to have the same beneficial and adverse effects in the long and short term.

Public:

- 1. Both adverse and beneficial effects:
 - a. Adverse effects to the public: Because it implements a statute which provides for the granting of partial property tax abatements, the adopted regulation will result in a reduction of tax revenue which would otherwise be available to state and local government for a variety of public purposes. The loss of revenues to the state could be substantial over the years depending on the size and number of projects that qualify for the abatement.
 - b. Beneficial effects to the public: Reducing peak energy load demands should over time lower energy costs and rates paid by Nevada citizens.
- 2. Both immediate and long term economic effects:

The adopted regulation will result in a reduction of tax revenue which would otherwise be available to state and local government for a variety of public purposes. Reducing peak energy load demands should over time lower energy costs and rates paid by Nevada citizens.

6. The estimated cost to the agency for enforcement of the adopted regulation.

The adopted regulation will require a new position to handle the workload of the Office of Energy. A general fund supported position was approved for the Office of Energy during the 2007 legislative session with the condition that the position be designated, as far as practicable, for Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) property tax abatement activities and implementation of LEED programs. Similarly, the regulation will likely result in additional work for employees of the Department of Taxation, possibly other state agencies, county assessors and treasurer in counties where “green buildings” are under construction but that workload is expected to be absorbed by existing staff.

7. A description of any regulations of other state or government agencies which the adopted regulation overlaps or duplicates and a statement why the duplication or overlapping is necessary. If the regulation overlaps or duplicates a federal regulation, the name of the regulating federal agency.

This regulation does not duplicate or overlap with any other state or federal agencies.

8. If the regulation includes provisions that are more stringent than a federal regulation which regulates the same activity, a summary of those provisions.

Not applicable.

9. If the regulation establishes a new fee or increases an existing fee, a statement indicating the total annual amount the agency expects to collect and the manner in which the money will be used.

The regulation does not establish a new fee or increase an existing fee.

10. Is the proposed regulation is likely to impose a direct and significant economic burden upon a small business or directly restrict the formation, operation or expansion of a small business? What methods did the agency use in determining the impact of the regulation on a small business?

The Director has determined that the adopted regulation does not impose a direct and significant economic burden upon a small business or restrict the formation, operation or expansion of a small business. In making this determination the Director considered the fact that the regulation and tax abatement program it implements is completely voluntary and imposes no direct requirements on any private businesses unless those businesses choose to participate in the program.