



# NEWS RELEASE

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## **USGBC Reaffirms Commitment to Developing Green Building Code** Partnership to move forward; USGBC Nominates Mark MacCracken, Brendan Owens to Standard Development Committee

November 13, 2008 – (Washington, DC) The U.S. Green Building Council reaffirmed its commitment to the development of Standard 189.1 P, which will be America's first National Standard developed to be used as a green building code when completed. Created specifically for adoption by states, localities, and other building code jurisdictions that are ready to require a minimum level of green building performance for all commercial buildings, Standard 189.1 P is being developed as an ANSI standard under ASHRAE's leadership, in partnership with the U.S. Green Building Council and IESNA.

"As green building goes mainstream, government leaders are asking for tools that set minimum standards for green building said Jason Hartke, Director of Advocacy and Public Policy, USGBC. "And Standard 189 will be an important part of that toolkit."

Leading cities including Washington, DC, San Francisco, and Los Angeles require most commercial buildings to reach LEED Silver; and earlier this year, the State of California authored and adopted a statewide green building code.

Doubts about the future of Standard 189.1 P were raised in late October by ASHRAE's decision to reconstitute the volunteer committee responsible for the development of the green building code. While rebuilding the committee will mean delays, USGBC remains confident in the quality of the final result.

Brendan Owens, VP of LEED Technical Development, USGBC, and a member of the Standard 189.1 P elaborated, "USGBC is deeply committed to our work with ASHRAE and to the integrity of the standard's content. Creating a national green building code is imperative to our mission of market transformation, and we will be 100% engaged to make sure it delivers on that promise."

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### **About the U.S. Green Building Council**

The U.S. Green Building Council is a nonprofit membership organization whose vision is a sustainable built environment within a generation. Its membership includes corporations, builders, universities, government agencies, and other nonprofit organizations. Since USGBC's founding in 1993, the Council has grown to more than 17,500 member companies and organizations, a comprehensive family of LEED® green building certification systems, an expansive educational offering, the industry's popular Greenbuild International Conference and Expo ([www.greenbuildexpo.org](http://www.greenbuildexpo.org)), and a network of 79 local chapters, affiliates, and organizing groups. For more information, visit [www.usgbc.org](http://www.usgbc.org).