

The **Better Buildings Initiative** is a national leadership initiative calling on state and local officials, corporate chief executive officers, university presidents, utilities, and other leaders to make substantial commitments to improve the energy efficiency of their buildings and plants, save money, and increase competitiveness. The cornerstones are a commitment to a 20% or more savings target across the organizations' portfolios and a commitment to share strategies that work, substantiated by energy data across the portfolios. The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) is expanding this initiative to engage leaders in a set of **Better Buildings Accelerators** designed to demonstrate specific innovative approaches, which, upon successful demonstration, will accelerate investment in energy efficiency.

The **Performance Contracting Accelerator** is designed to expand the use of performance contracting by federal, state, and local governments, K-12 schools, and others. The Performance Contracting Accelerator aims to catalyze public sector energy efficiency investments of \$2 billion from January 2013 to December 2016 through the use of innovative and best practice approaches to enhance performance contracting programs. It will establish these approaches over this period and maintain them for the long term. Focus areas include: contract design, energy measurement and verification (M&V), performance benchmarking, reporting of successful outcomes, streamlined project processes, and approaches for deep-energy and small building retrofits.

The goals of the **Performance Contracting Accelerator** include:

- ▶ Demonstrate best practice approaches for performance contracting and yield road-tested examples for other public sector organizations to use.
- ▶ Develop standardized methods for energy savings measurement and reporting.
- ▶ Design approaches for tracking and benchmarking energy savings performance contract (ESPC) projects through aggregating national data from projects and for improving collection of project data.
- ▶ Document and share best practices for deep-energy retrofits in public buildings and energy retrofits in smaller buildings, and lowering the cost of capital.
- ▶ Develop recommendations for post-Accelerator next steps.

Performance Contracting Accelerator Partners, in collaboration with DOE, will demonstrate practical and effective best practices to accelerate the use of performance contracting. Accelerator Partners and DOE enter into this partnership agreement to improve performance contracting processes across public facilities at all levels of government.

Performance Contracting Accelerator Partner Agrees to:

- ▶ **Appoint** an Accelerator partnership lead.
- ▶ **Pledge** a financial commitment to implement ESPCs for the next three years.
- ▶ **Work with DOE** to identify one or more barriers in their performance contracting program or project within 4 months of joining; and work with DOE and other Accelerator Partners to find solutions within 18 months.
- ▶ **Participate** in technical assistance forums.
- ▶ **Share** materials, results, and lessons learned from their innovative approaches.
- ▶ **Participate** in the development of and provide data for national ESPC project database.
- ▶ **Report** on progress towards the goal semi-annually.

The U.S. Department of Energy Agrees to:

- ▶ **Appoint** a DOE point of contact for each partnership.
- ▶ **Facilitate** the development of best practice approaches in collaboration with Accelerator Partners, including standardized model contracts, deep-energy retrofit approaches, and pathways to completing energy retrofits in smaller buildings.
- ▶ **Share information** and provide technical assistance (webinars and tailored training) on federal, state, and local government, K-12, and other performance contracting programs and approaches.
- ▶ **Establish a central repository and standard process to report data at the project, building, and energy conservation level** in collaboration with Partners, industry, and stakeholders, and provide access to Partners.
- ▶ **Provide public recognition** to Accelerator Partners for achieving milestones and commitment.

Agreement

My organization is committed to the goals of this Better Buildings Accelerator and pledges to lead in the use of performance contracting.

Senior Executive Officer

Date

Contact Information

Organization: _____ Address: _____

Name: _____ Title: _____ Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Performance Contracting Goal (dollars committed over the next 3 years): _____

General Terms

- ▶ All parties concur that this agreement is wholly voluntary and may be terminated by any party at any time, and for any reason, with no penalty.
- ▶ Partner will not construe, claim, or imply that its participation in the Better Buildings Initiative constitutes Federal Government approval, acceptance, or endorsement of anything other than Partner's commitment to the initiative.
- ▶ Partner understands its participation in the Better Buildings Initiative does not constitute Federal Government endorsement of Partner.
- ▶ Partner understands that the activities it undertakes in connection with the Better Buildings Initiative are voluntary and not intended to provide services to the Federal Government. Partner will not submit a claim for compensation to any federal agency.
- ▶ The Better Buildings Initiative will honor all requests to keep the Partner's information and data confidential.