



# U.S. DEPARTMENT OF **ENERGY**

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## Press Release

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### **Energy Department Announces Partnership with CoStar Group, Inc. to Expand Visibility of Energy-Efficient Buildings in U.S. Real Estate Marketplace**

As part of the Obama Administration's effort to cut energy waste in the America's buildings, the U.S. Department of Energy's Better Buildings Initiative today announced a partnership with CoStar Group, Inc., a provider of data and intelligence solutions to commercial real estate professionals, to expand the visibility of energy-efficient buildings in U.S. property markets and promote the benefits of energy efficiency for building owners and occupants.

As outlined in a [Memorandum of Understanding](#), DOE and CoStar Group will jointly support the following initiatives:

- Display building energy efficiency information in CoStar Group's online property databases
- Perform new, cutting-edge research to evaluate the impact of energy efficiency and sustainability on real estate valuation; building operating income and expenses; tenant health, comfort, and productivity; and other topics
- Promote Better Buildings and the solutions of market-leading Better Buildings partners.

"Reducing wasted energy in our buildings is one of the quickest and most cost-effective ways to reduce energy bills for Americans, make local communities more affordable, cut harmful pollution, and create new jobs," said Dr. Kathleen Hogan, DOE Deputy Assistant Secretary for Energy Efficiency. "DOE's partnership with CoStar Group will not only improve our understanding of the benefits of energy efficiency for building owners and occupants, but will also result in an historic expansion of the energy efficiency information available to commercial real estate consumers that will drive demand for energy efficiency improvements nationwide."

CoStar Group will display energy-related information that is already being made publicly accessible by state and local governments that have adopted building energy transparency laws. It plans to begin displaying energy-related information for buildings in Chicago and Washington, D.C., this summer, followed by buildings in other applicable states and localities beginning this fall.

Energy-related information for approximately 60,000 U.S. commercial and multifamily buildings nationwide will become publicly accessible under state or local energy transparency laws over the next few years.

The building energy efficiency information that may be displayed in CoStar Group's online property databases include the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) ENERGY STAR® score, whole-building source energy usage intensity, and annual greenhouse gas emissions, subject to the availability of the information. Additionally, CoStar Group and the EPA will continue to explore options to enable building owners and managers to voluntarily share their energy-related information with CoStar Group's online property databases.

CoStar Group already identifies and promotes the benefits of more than 15,000 buildings that have achieved ENERGY STAR certification and the U.S. Green Building Council's LEED certification in its online property databases and marketplaces. CoStar Group also operates more than 100 low-emission research vehicles that save an estimated 100,000 gallons of fuel each year.

DOE, through its Building Technologies Office (BTO), will contribute technical energy efficiency expertise to support the partnership initiatives. The partnership agreement has an initial term of 24 months.

Through Better Buildings, DOE aims to make commercial, public, industrial, and residential buildings 20% more energy efficient over the next decade. Better Buildings includes the Better Buildings Challenge, a cornerstone of the President's Climate Action Plan that works with corporate and public sector leaders across the country to save energy through commitments and investments. More than 310 organizations are partnering with the department to achieve 20% portfolio-wide energy savings and share successful strategies that maximize efficiency over the next decade. Across the country, partners have shared energy data for more than 34,000 properties and are reporting energy savings of 20% or more at 5,500 properties, and 10% or more at 12,600 properties.

Learn more about Better Buildings partner results, showcase projects, and innovative solutions being shared with others at [betterbuildingssolutioncenter.energy.gov](http://betterbuildingssolutioncenter.energy.gov).

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