

### FOCUS

The Department of Consumer and Business Services, Building Codes Division (BCD) is helping to integrate energy efficiency and green building techniques into Oregon's built environment, targeting:

- energy efficiency
- renewable energy
- water conservation
- electric vehicle (EV) charging infrastructure

### STRATEGY

BCD supports the state's growing expertise in green building design and construction by:

- partnering with stakeholders to develop construction standards for practices and products
- assisting local jurisdictions in addressing the challenges of permitting new, innovative technologies
- developing outreach and training services on new materials and construction methods

### ACTIONS

Flexibility and support of high performance construction methods in code adoption, product approval, and permitting are three major areas that BCD is targeting with the following actions:

#### Energy efficiency

- [Oregon Energy Efficiency Specialty Code](#) (OEESC), which reduces energy use in new commercial construction by more than 15% over the 2007 code, became effective July 1, 2010(SB 79).
- Development of the [Oregon Reach Code](#) an optional set of construction standards that reduces energy use in buildings beyond the requirements in the state's mandatory codes was initiated in March 2010 (SB 79).
- Formed the [Construction Industry Energy Advisory Board](#) to streamline adoption of energy efficiency and other green building standards, practices, and products (HB 2950)
- Board decision allowing the installation of high performance boilers and pressure vessels built to internationally-recognized construction standards (approved 2009)

#### Renewable energy

- The nation's first [statewide solar code](#), to expedite the installation and permitting of photovoltaic (PV) systems, is scheduled for adoption October 1, 2010.
- Establishment of a rule ([OAR 918-311-0080](#)) creating a streamlined certification process for small-scale wind turbines (approved 2009)
- Statewide alternate method (SAM) to [allow the use of single-walled heat exchangers](#) for solar hot water systems (approved 2008)

#### Water Conservation

- SAM on construction standards for rainwater harvesting systems for both [potable](#) and [non-potable](#) uses (approved 2008, revised 2010)
- SAM on construction standards of [gray water systems](#) for flushing toilets for residential and [commercial structures](#) (approved 2008, revised 2010)
- Participation on the [gray water advisory committee](#) formed by the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) to develop a permitting process for using gray water for outdoor irrigation (HB 2080)

#### Electric Vehicle (EV) Charging Infrastructure

- Rule on [permit and inspection protocols](#) for EV charging stations OAR 918-311-0065 (approved 2008)
- SAM for calculating electrical service for EV charging in facilities installing [multiple charging units](#) (approved 2009)
- Expedited permitting process for home charging stations through the state's '[minor label](#)' program (approved 2010)
- Member of steering committee for "[The EV Project](#)" which will install more than one thousand charging stations in local communities along the I-5 corridor between Portland and Eugene.