

SELECTION CONSIDERATIONS FOR SUSTAINABLE CONSTRUCTION IN INDIAN COUNTRY DEMONSTRATION SITES

The following are issues HUD will consider when selecting demonstration projects. The Initiative seeks broad geographic, climate, and technological representation.

Initiative-wide considerations

- Do the proposed demonstration projects represent all HUD Office of Native American Program regions and differing climates?
- Do the proposed demonstration projects represent differing housing types and reach different groups of residents? (This may include single-family, multi-family, multigenerational, supportive housing, elderly housing, etc.)
- Do the proposed demonstration projects represent new construction and rehabilitation residential projects at various scales and phases of completion?
- Do the proposed demonstration projects represent a range of sustainable construction technology practices, including but not limited to:
 - Building orientation and façade differentiation designed for passive solar heating/cooling.
 - Blown cellulose, foam, or other insulation (not fiberglass batts) used to Department of Energy thermal resistance (R-value) standards
 - Green Alternative Construction technologies, such as:
 - Structural Insulated Panels (SIPS)
 - Aerated Concrete
 - Advanced Wood Framing
 - Insulated Concrete Forms (ICF)
 - Straw bale
 - Adobe
 - Other local alternative technologies
 - Modular construction
 - Improved indoor air quality and reduced/eliminated use of toxic finish materials
 - Recycled/waste product construction materials
 - Green roofs
 - Long term, durable materials such as metal roofs, cementitious siding, masonry, etc.
 - Low-E windows (low emissivity windows)
 - Heat and Energy Recovery Ventilators (HRVs and ERVs)
 - High efficiency heating and cooling systems (heat pumps)
 - Landscaping to reduce water usage/plants that thrive in regional conditions
 - Photovoltaic panels
 - Solar water heating
 - Gray water systems/wastewater systems
 - Rainwater harvesting and storage
 - Geothermal heating
 - Energy Star appliances and materials
 - Radiant floor heating

- Thorough caulking and weather-stripping
- Other sustainable design features

Project-related considerations (most of these are related to projects in early or planning stages of construction or rehabilitation)

- Is stable construction funding in place?
- Is tribe willing for the Sustainable Construction in Indian Country team to write up the project as a best practice case study, which will be made available to other tribes and will be included in the initiative's final report?
- Is tribe interested in technical assistance?
- Does the tribal council support project, including incorporation of sustainable construction practices?
- Is tribe interested in making project more "green"?
- Are there types of sustainable construction practices that are appropriate to add into this project?
- Will this project train and hire from within the tribe? Will this project support future economic development?
- Does this project also support cultural sustainability?
- Does it incorporate or wish to incorporate culturally appropriate features?
- Does the project plan to seek or is tribe open to seeking Green Communities, LEED for Homes, Energy Star, or other local green certification?
- Is the project sited on a brownfield?
- As appropriate, is the project sited to minimize car trips to and from the site for everyday needs?
- Is the project part of a larger master plan that includes other non-residential uses?
- Does the project reflect traditional technologies and/or traditional culture of the tribe and the region?
- Is the project designed to improve indoor air quality and reduce/eliminate the use of toxic finish materials?
- Does the tribe have an interest in post-occupancy analysis of the project to determine actual building performance, resident satisfaction, and maintenance/operational outcomes?
- Is the project part of a larger tribal initiative to build greener homes now and in the future?
- Does the project team have experience with projects of a similar scale?
- Does project team have experience with sustainable construction projects?
- Is it likely that project will be completed within timeframe?
- Does the tribe have the ability to build on the proposed site?
- Is infrastructure in place?
- Has tribe selected a project team?
- What is the cost and availability of sustainable construction technologies in the project's geographic area?
- What State, utility, or other additional incentives are available for this project?