



Immediate Release
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HOME BUILDERS ASSOCIATION OF NORTHERN CALIFORNIA ANNOUNCES SUPPORT FOR MANDATORY GREEN BUILDING STANDARDS IN ALL BAY AREA COMMUNITIES

HBANC also announces aggressive new goals for reducing energy consumption in all new home construction

SAN RAMON—The Home Builders Association of Northern California today announced its support for mandatory sustainable green building standards in all Bay Area cities and counties, making it the first major building association in the state and possibly the nation to embrace strong mandatory standards.

HBANC President Joseph Perkins also announced aggressive new goals for reducing overall energy consumption in all new homes that its member builders construct by 50 percent from 1990 levels by the year 2020 and to reduce carbon emissions by 30 percent from 1990 levels in the same timeframe. Again, the goals make HBANC the first building association in California and possibly the nation to voluntarily commit to such standards.

"HBANC believes that making sustainable green building standards mandatory is not only good for the environment and our planet, but is good for business, good for consumers, good for our growing clean tech economy and is the right thing to do," Perkins said.

HBANC will partner with the independent, Berkeley-based Build It Green (www.builditgreen.org) organization, whose fast-growing Green Point Rated program

provides the green building standards that the HBANC will work to make mandatory in cities and counties.

"We are very excited to be partnering with HBANC in expanding the Green Point Rated program," said Brian Gitt, executive director of Build It Green. "Together, we can help the Bay Area and California reach the broader goals of dramatically reducing our energy consumption, lowering our carbon emissions and growing our clean tech economy."

"Of the 101 cities and counties in the nine-county region, 15 have so far adopted Build It Green's Green Point Rated standards as mandatory and we intend to help push that number significantly higher," Perkins said. "Build It Green's program exceeds the state's current standards for energy-efficient construction, is compatible with other national green building programs and is specifically tailored to address the Bay Area's unique housing marketplace. We are excited about our relationship with Build It Green."

Perkins made the announcement during Advancing the New Energy Economy, a conference hosted by the California Public Utilities Commission focused on growing California's green energy economy and preparing the workforce that will be needed to drive the state's burgeoning clean tech industry.

Perkins said the two organizations expect to announce more details about their partnership, including how HBANC's energy reduction goals will be supported by the Green Point Rated program and a strategy for expanding mandatory adoption of the program, in the next 60 days.

HBANC's decision comes after considerable research into growing consumer demand for homes built using green building practices and the various programs

"Consumers want new homes that reduce energy costs, provide a healthy living environment and still feature the amenities they need at a price that is affordable," Perkins said. "And we believe the Green Point Rated program is the best fit for California and for the Bay Area."

The Home Builders Association of Northern California is a professional, non-profit association committed to promoting housing for people of all income levels and the production of quality homes. HBANC's membership comprises about 1,000 home builders, trade contractors, suppliers and industry professionals in the Bay Area.

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