



Shaping Tomorrow's  
Built Environment Today

1791 Tullie Circle NE • Atlanta, Ga. 30329-2305 • Tel- 678.636.8400 • Fax 678.321.5478 • [www.ashrae.org](http://www.ashrae.org)

March ##, 2013

The Honorable Adam Sieminski  
Administrator  
U.S. Energy Information Administration  
1000 Independence Avenue, SW  
Washington, DC 20585

**Request to Continue Allocating Funds to Maintain Progress on the 2012 Commercial Buildings Energy Consumption Survey**

Dear Administrator Sieminski:

On behalf of ASHRAE, and together with the below-signed organizations, I thank you for your continued support for the Commercial Buildings Energy Consumption Survey (CBECS), and strongly urge you to continue allocating funds for CBECS to maintain progress on the 2012 edition of the Survey, even as EIA faces challenging funding reductions as a result of sequestration and lower congressional appropriations.

*ASHRAE, founded in 1894, is a building technology society with more than 53,000 members worldwide. The Society and its members focus on building systems, energy efficiency, indoor air quality and sustainability. Through research, standards writing, publishing and continuing education, ASHRAE shapes tomorrow's built environment today.*

As you are aware, CBECS data are critical to the building community because they help form the basis for understanding patterns of energy use, informing the decisions of the industry and key policymakers and government programs, and assessing progress towards energy conservation goals. For instance, CBECS data are used by ASHRAE in the development of our building energy efficiency standards, which are used by the federal government and most states. CBECS data are also the baseline used by many federal and private sector programs in their efforts to promote building efficiency, including: The ENERGY STAR Buildings program; Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) for Existing Buildings; Green Globes®; ASHRAE's Building Energy Quotient (bEQ) building energy labeling program; and many others, which are all founded on performance comparisons with CBECS information. CBECS data are also used by federal agencies and national laboratories to help identify and prioritize opportunities to increase building efficiency.

For these reasons, ASHRAE and the below-signed organizations request that you continue allocating funds for CBECS to maintain progress on the 2012 Survey.

We look forward to working with you on this matter for the benefit of all. Please feel free to contact Doug Read, ASHRAE Director of Government Affairs, at [dread@ashrae.org](mailto:dread@ashrae.org) or 202-833-1830.

Sincerely,  
/s/

**Thomas E. Watson, P. E., FASHRAE**  
President

Cc: Hon. Steven Chu, Secretary, U.S. Department of Energy

SUPPORTING ORGANIZATIONS LISTED BELOW