

# ***Building STAR* FACT SHEET**

*Building Star* consists of a package of rebates and tax incentives to quickly put **hundreds of thousands of** people to work conducting energy efficient retrofits (i.e., improving the energy performance) of commercial and multi-family residential buildings. *Building STAR* would create or retain these jobs in one year for construction firms, the building trades, and manufacturers and distributors of building supplies, and more.

*Building STAR* also serves as a complement to the *Home Star* proposal, which is designed to provide incentives for energy efficient upgrades for the single-family residential market.

The *Building STAR* rebates would cover approximately 30 percent of the cost of installing energy efficient products and/or providing energy efficiency-related services (e.g., energy audits) during 2010 and are largely based on proven, existing state-level utility and other rebate programs. And, *Building STAR* contains performance-based as well as technology-specific tax incentives that will help create jobs on a large scale by driving major-scale efficiency retrofits.

*Building Star* would:

- **Create 25,000 jobs in 2010 for every \$1 billion of federal investment** for the hard-hit construction and building services, manufacturing, and distribution sectors. For a \$6 billion federal investment, for example, Building STAR would create at least 150,000 jobs.
- **Maximize federal investment, by leveraging \$2-3 in private investment for every federal dollar spent.** *Building STAR* would thus spur a total market activity of \$18 - \$24 billion, with a \$6 billion federal investment, making this a great model for a public-private partnership and maximizing resource efficacy.
- **Provide direct benefits to the thousands of small businesses**, including the 91 percent of commercial contractors that have fewer than 20 employees.
- **Use a simple application process** so that building owners can participate easily. **Work quickly**, because the rebate and incentive levels are established in legislation, rather than by agencies, making it possible to implement Building STAR immediately. In addition, this program is based on existing, already-proven utility rebate programs and tax incentives.
- **Deliver real energy savings and greenhouse gas emissions reductions**, because of the typically large size and scope of commercial and multi-family building retrofits. For example, such retrofits could save industry \$3.3 billion a year, based on ACEEE figures.

*Building STAR* was developed by *Rebuilding America*, a coalition of more than 60 unions, contractor groups, manufacturers, financial services companies, and efficiency advocates, in conjunction with a number of additional stakeholder groups.

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