

The Value in *Building STAR* – Facts and Figures

Building STAR consists of a package of rebates and financing provisions to quickly put *hundreds of thousands of people* to work conducting energy efficient retrofits (i.e., improving the energy performance) of commercial and apartment building infrastructure. *Building STAR* would create these jobs by 2011 for construction firms, the building trades, manufacturers, distributors of building supplies, and more.

Building STAR also would:

- **Provide direct benefits to the thousands of companies and small businesses**, including the 91 percent of commercial contractors that have fewer than 20 employees.
- **Create as many as 200,000 jobs** for the hard-hit construction and building services, manufacturing, and distribution sectors.
- **Maximize federal investment, by leveraging \$3-4 in private investment for every federal dollar spent.** With a \$6 billion federal investment, *Building STAR* would thus spur a total market activity of \$18-\$24 billion, making this a great model for public-private partnerships and maximizing resource efficacy.
- **Use a simple application process** so that building owners can participate easily, with little bureaucracy.
- **Work quickly**, because the rebate and financing provision levels are established in legislation, rather than by agencies, making it possible to implement *Building STAR* almost immediately. In addition, this program is based on existing, already-proven utility rebate programs and financing provisions.
- **Deliver real energy savings and greenhouse gas emissions reductions**, because of the typically large size and scope of commercial and apartment building infrastructure retrofits. For example, such retrofits could save industry \$1.6 billion a year, based on EPA figures.

As a practical matter, 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.