

## EHS Commences In-House Certification of Green Buildings

Trakhees-EHS (Environment, Health and Safety), the regulatory arm of PCFC (Ports, Customs and Free Zone Corporation) is pleased to announce the commencement of its "In-house" certification facility for Green Buildings thereby providing its clients with a viable and cost effective alternative. This initiative devised on the back of market feedback and stakeholder's views is expected to offer an alternative path of certification to the clients

Through this announcement which enters into force with immediate effect, all EHS / Dubai World jurisdiction projects following the LEED rating system can pursue certification by making use of any of the following options

### Option-1

To continue with the current practice of registering the project with United States Green Building Council (USGBC) and seeking appropriate certification by Green Building Certification Institute (GBCI).

### Option-2

Submit to EHS for In-House review & certification.

### What it means to the clients?

1. The Green Building submissions would be fully reviewed and certified by EHS. It would no longer be required to register with United States Green Building Council (USGBC) and seek certifications from Green Building Certification Institute (GBCI).
2. Greater conveniences in dealing with a local authority in terms of submissions, reviews, communications and ease of reach.
3. Considerable saving in the overall process time leading to certification.
4. Reduced cost. It is expected to be at least 50% more economical when compared to the cost that would normally be incurred in option-1 (USGBC path).

### Note

1. In-House certification is applicable ONLY for projects following the EHS Regulation GB 4.0 (LEED rating system).
2. This process does not affect any of the existing EHS processes or submission requirements.
3. The clients are expected to notify EHS in advance (during NOC-BP submissions) on the options they would pursue for records and appropriate treatment of the project by EHS.
4. Should a client prefer to seek EHS certification, all supporting documentation/templates as per the current formats would be submitted to EHS.
5. It is purely up to the stakeholders to pursue LEED certification from GBCI should they wish to do so. EHS In-House certification facility does not deter / influence their choices.

EHS would shortly be releasing a procedure detailing the certification process and it's inter phase with NOC-BP and NOC-BCC application.

It is also planned to conduct face to face sessions with key holders in order to strengthen the awareness on this initiative and clarify any doubts that they would have on the processes.

*This Regulation becomes effective with immediate effect and is applicable to all new projects. This will not impact the existing projects that have already been subject to Green Building review under the current regulations.*

*However should the clients prefer to exercise the In-House certification facility for any of their on-going projects, they should submit an application to EHS with relevant particulars including specific justification. EHS would review the application with due consideration of the merits of the case and provide appropriate response for further action.*

EHS-Trakhees is committed to providing quality regulatory services to our business units and clients in protecting the environment, human health and safety and as always, we look forward to your cooperation, support and contribution.