



News Release

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Headquarters for power grid garners top green building award

FOLSOM, Calif. – After only six months of operating its new Folsom headquarters, the California Independent System Operator Corporation (ISO) is proving its sustainable building design and green corporate culture has met the stringent criteria set by the U.S. Green Building Council. As of today, the ISO Iron Point campus that houses the control center operating the bulk of the state power grid is certified “Platinum” through the council’s Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) rating program.

“We are tremendously pleased to receive this top honor, which is significant to our employees and the project team, including architect Dreyfuss & Blackford and contractor Clark Construction,” said ISO President and CEO Steve Berberich. “To attain Platinum after completing the project three months ahead of schedule and \$10 million under budget generates a great deal of corporate pride.”

The ISO campus includes rooftop and carport photovoltaics that produce 750 kilowatts of electricity and energy usage that is 72 percent lower as compared to its previous location. Water use is reduced 30 percent and building gray water provides 100 percent of irrigation. Other LEED features include:

- Lower operating costs through the energy and water savings
- Reduced waste sent to landfills through recycling efforts
- Healthier, safer and more secure work environment
- Protected natural resources including local wildlife and vegetation
- Direct access to bike trails and public transportation

The LEED system is the nationally recognized benchmark for the design, construction and operation of high performance green buildings. Buildings that earn Platinum demonstrate environmental stewardship and social responsibility. The ISO headquarters exemplifies California’s commitment to the environment and the hope is that it serves as a model to encourage other sustainable buildings construction.

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The California ISO operates the state's wholesale transmission grid, providing open and non-discriminatory access supported by a competitive energy market and comprehensive planning efforts. Partnering with more than 90 client organizations, the ISO is dedicated to the continual development and reliable operation of a modern grid that operates at the least cost to the benefit of consumers. The ISO bulk power market allocates space on transmission lines, maintains operating reserves and matches supply with demand. Recognizing the importance of global climate change, the ISO welcomes new, advanced technologies that will help meet the energy needs of 30 million Californians efficiently and cleanly. The ISO is a nonprofit public benefit corporation.