

**Department of
Veterans Affairs**

Memorandum

Date:

From: Assistant Secretary for Management (004)

Subj: Green Buildings Action Plan and Advisory Council (WebCIMS # 368280)

To: See addressee list below

1. In February 2006, VA joined 21 other departments and agencies in signing a memorandum of understanding (MOU) entitled Federal Leadership in High Performance and Sustainable Buildings. Executive Order 13423, signed on January 24, 2007, has elevated the MOU to the presidential directive level for all federal agencies. The purpose of the MOU is to commit the federal government to taking a leadership role in designing, constructing, and operating buildings that have minimal impact on the natural environment, are energy and water efficient, and provide a healthy and productive environment for employees and visitors. The principles of the MOU incorporate many existing requirements of environmental and energy laws, regulations, and executive orders.

2. VA has begun its implementation of the MOU by developing a Green Buildings Advisory Council charter and action plan (attached). These documents were developed by an inter-office working group and approved by the three Administrations.

3. I have approved the charter. The Council is to begin immediate implementation of the action plan. I ask that the Under Secretaries and other key officials listed in the charter designate a primary and alternate representative to the Council by March 30. Each representative must have the authority to commit their organization to the activities and resources detailed in the action plan.

4. Questions regarding the Council or its action plan may be directed to Ed Bradley, Director, Investment & Enterprise Development Service, 202-273-9489.

Robert J. Henke

Attachments

Addressees:

Veterans Health Administration (10)

Veterans Benefits Administration (20)

National Cemetery Administration (40)

Office of Construction and Facilities Management (00CFM)

Office of Budget (041)

Office of Asset Enterprise Management (004B)

Office of Acquisition and Materiel Management (049)

Office of Information and Technology (005)

Office of Human Resources and Administration (006)

Deputy Under Secretary for Health for Operations & Management (10N)