



## Nevada Site Office News

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### **Nevada Support Facility Earns ENERGY STAR Superior Energy Efficiency Rating**

The Nevada Support Facility (NSF), home to the National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) Nevada Site Office (NSO), has earned the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA's) ENERGY STAR certification for meeting strict energy efficiency performance levels, the EPA announced recently.

The ENERGY STAR certification signifies that a building performs in the top 25 percent of similar facilities nationwide for energy efficiency. Commercial buildings that earn EPA's ENERGY STAR certification use an average of 35 percent less energy than typical buildings and also release 35 percent less carbon dioxide into the atmosphere. NNSA/NSO improved its energy performance by managing energy strategically across the entire organization and by making cost-effective improvements to its buildings.

"We're pleased to accept EPA's ENERGY STAR certification in recognition of our energy efficiency efforts. Through this achievement, the facility has demonstrated a commitment to environmental stewardship while also lowering energy costs," said J.P. Martinez, NNSA/NSO energy manager.

To earn the ENERGY STAR, NSF documented the building's performance as noted:

- Energy performance in the top 25 percent of similar existing buildings
- Occupants of the facility were asked to complete a thermal comfort survey; therefore, documenting thermal comfort in accordance with the required provisions
- Indoor air quality is in accordance with the provisions of American Society of Heating, Refrigeration and Air-Conditioning Engineers Standard 62
- The illuminance levels are in accordance with the Illuminating Engineering Society of North America, IESNA Lighting Handbook.

EPA's ENERGY STAR energy performance scale helps organizations assess how efficiently their buildings use energy relative to similar buildings nationwide. A building that scores a 75 or higher on EPA's 1-100 scale may be eligible for ENERGY STAR certification. The NSF scored a 96.

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“Improving the energy efficiency of our nation’s buildings is critical to protecting our environment,” said Jean Lupinacci, chief of the ENERGY STAR Commercial and Industrial Branch. “From the boiler room to the board room, organizations are leading the way by making their buildings more efficient and earning EPA’s ENERGY STAR certification.”

ENERGY STAR was introduced by the EPA in 1992 as a voluntary, market-based partnership to reduce greenhouse gas emissions through energy efficiency. Today, the ENERGY STAR label can be found on more than 60 different kinds of products as well as new homes and commercial and industrial buildings that meet strict energy-efficiency specifications set by the EPA. Last year alone, Americans, with the help of ENERGY STAR, saved \$18 billion on their energy bills while reducing the greenhouse gas emissions equivalent to those of 34 million vehicles.

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