



The Value of 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 efficiency retrofits (i.e., improving the energy performance) of commercial and apartment building infrastructure. Building STAR would create these jobs immediately for construction firms, the building trades, manufacturers, distributors of building supplies, and more. Building STAR also would:

- **Provide direct benefits to thousands of companies and small businesses**, including the 91 percent of commercial contractors that have fewer than 20 employees.
- **Create 150,000 – 200,000 jobs in 2010 and 2011** in the hard-hit construction and building services, manufacturing, and distribution sectors. Building STAR is authorized at \$6 billion, meaning that the program would create at least 25,000 quality jobs for every \$1 billion of federal investment.
- **Maximize federal investment, by leveraging \$2-3 in private investment for every federal dollar spent.** Building STAR would thus spur a total market activity of \$18 - \$24 billion with a \$6 billion federal investment, making this a great model for a public-private partnership and maximizing resource efficacy.
- **Use a simple application process** so that building owners can participate easily.
- **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 consumers \$3.3 billion a year, based on ACEEE 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. 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.