



March 5, 2014

Kevin Hill
Energy Efficiency Program Manager
Nevada Office of Energy
755 North Roop Street, Suite 202
Carson City, NV 89701

Re: Comments on Proposed Regulation, LCB File No. R127-13 (February 4, 2014)

Dear Mr. Hill:

The American Wood Council (AWC)ⁱ writes in support of the proposed regulation, LCB File Number R127-13, which would provide for recognition of the Green Building Initiative's (GBI) Green Globes rating system as equivalent to the U.S. Green Building Council's (USGBC) Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) rating system for the purposes of the Energy Office's Green Building tax abatement program. The regulation implements 2013 Assembly Bill 33, which requires the tax abatement program to recognize rating systems equivalent to LEED. **AWC supports recognition of all credible green building rating systems, including recognition of Green Globes, a rating system accredited by the American National Standards Institute (ANSI).**

AWC supports the proposed regulation because it provides options for choosing a green building rating system and we believe that providing such flexibility results in better environmentally sustainable design. By recognizing GBI's Green Globes rating system or an ANSI accredited equivalent program, as an alternative to USGBC's LEED rating system, ensures that there is included an eligible green building standard that has been developed through a true consensus-based process that maintains a policy of material neutrality.

Wood products can contribute greatly toward environmentally sustainable design if treated equitably under green building standards. As such, AWC appreciates the opportunity to comment in support of the proposed regulation and recognition of Green Globes as equivalent to LEED in Nevada's Green Building tax abatement program.

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to Terry Webber, at (202) 463-2732 or twebber@awc.org.

Regards,

Handwritten signature of Robert Glowinski in black ink.

Robert Glowinski
President & CEO
American Wood Council

Handwritten signature of Terry Webber in black ink.

Terry Webber
Manager, Government Affairs
American Wood Council

ⁱ AWC is the voice of North American traditional and engineered wood products, representing over 75% of the industry. From a renewable resource that absorbs and sequesters carbon, the wood products industry makes products that are essential to everyday life and employs over one-third of a million men and women in well-paying jobs. AWC's engineers, technologists, scientists, and building code experts develop state-of-the-art engineering data, technology, and standards on structural wood products for use by design professionals, building officials, and wood products manufacturers to assure the safe and efficient design and use of wood structural components. AWC also provides technical, legal, and economic information on wood design, green building, and manufacturing environmental regulations advocating for balanced government policies that sustain the wood products industry. The forest products industry remains an integral part of the nation's green job base, accounting for approximately 4.5 percent of total U.S. manufacturing GDP. The industry is among the top 10 manufacturing sector employers in 47 states.