

July/August 2010

# Energy Leader

A Publication of the *Ventura County Regional Energy Alliance*  
Home of the *Ventura County Energy Resource Center*

## Energy Certifications

**VCREA invites you to visit our new website @ [www.vcenergy.org](http://www.vcenergy.org)**

**Regional public agencies and organizations, businesses and individuals all can find relevant information to increase energy efficiency.**

**Register to receive the Energy Leader newsletter and email notification of upcoming technical workshops and events. If you have already registered remember to update your contact information as needed.**

**Energy Service Vendors are encouraged to register to inform the public of services and products available.**

**Look for regular updates and additional information significant to our region. Your comments and input would be greatly appreciated.**

**For information about VCREA and Energy Efficiency in the Ventura County region contact:**

VCREA  
1000 S. Hill Road, Suite 230  
Ventura, California 93003

Tel: (805) 289-3335

Fax: (805) 289-3111

Email:

[vcreea.admin@ventura.org](mailto:vcreea.admin@ventura.org)

Website: [www.vcenergy.org](http://www.vcenergy.org)

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In response to recent questions about energy certifications, we present a partial list of titles that are emerging in our regional workforce. As the workforce advances into the deeper shades of **green**, these credentials enhance the skills of energy efficiency professionals and technicians who wish to distinguish their work and gain a competitive edge to support their customers.

Certifications provide expertise in a variety of specialized areas of the energy, power and green facilities industry. Through education and instruction they establish a standard of professional competence which is recognized throughout the industry. Certification fosters professional development through encouragement of long-term career goals that enables recognition for individuals and their organizations.

When you earn your certification credential, you are distinguishing yourself among colleagues in your field, and demonstrating high levels of experience, competence and specialized knowledge that will help increase the interest of prospective employers and clients.

Certification promotes quality through continuing education to assure a high level of competence in constantly changing fields.

There are a number of certifications available in the energy field. The following are a few examples with a brief explanation of the certification:

**Building Operator Certification (BOC)** has two certifications as follows:

**BOC Level I** certification program is designed for operators with two or more years experience in building operations and maintenance who wish to broaden their knowledge.

**BOC level II** is intended for operators who have been BOC I certified, and desire advanced training.

*See pages 2 and 4 for information on classes scheduled in and around our region.*

**Certified Energy Manager (CEM)** professionals become eligible for this certification after demonstrating expertise in several areas ranging from standards, air quality, energy audits, lighting, procurement and even financing.

**Certified Energy Auditor (CEA)** must possess the fundamental knowledge needed to evaluate how energy is being used in a facility, and to identify where consumption can be reduced with effective auditing basics; putting them in the context of the "big picture" and the bottom line.

**Certified Green Building Professional (CGBP)** provides construction professionals with a practical, comprehensive, step-by-step process to effectively upgrade and remodel existing homes in all aspects of a green home.

*See page 2 for information on classes scheduled near our region.*

**HERS Rater** evaluates the energy performance and comfort issues of a home through diagnostic procedures and principles of the house as a system. There are different levels of certification as follows:

**HERS Certified New Construction Rater** performs verifications for new homes. This classification level pertains to two specific areas within the new home market. The first, are homes that need verification for Title-24 compliance; the second, are homes needing EPA ENERGY STAR® verifications.

**HERS Existing Housing Rater** will collect data on existing homes to attain the energy rating.

**HERS Energy Analyst** this classification level is for Title-24 consultants that work with builders on the construction of EPA ENERGY STAR® Homes.

There are many other certifications available through various professional organizations such as the Association of Energy Engineers (AEE); website: [www.aeecenter.org](http://www.aeecenter.org), as well as continuing education institutions.

VCREA will continue to update training and certification contacts that can be shared through our website.

## VENTURA PARTNERSHIP NEWS



### Southern California Edison Building Operator Certification & Training

Southern California Edison is proud to be sponsoring Building Operator Certification (BOC) training for commercial customers interested in energy efficiency.

The BOC Level 1 certification program is a seven-course program designed for operators with two or more years experience in building operations and maintenance who wish to broaden their knowledge.

Certification is earned by demonstrating a knowledge of and an ability to apply the essentials of effective and energy-efficient operations and maintenance. Individuals who have earned this certification gain improved job skills and are able to operate and maintain more comfortable, efficient facilities.

The following **BOC Level 1** courses will be held at:

**Sherman Oaks – Courtyard by Marriott**  
15433 Ventura Boulevard  
Sherman Oaks, CA 91403  
(818) 981-5400

**Building Systems Overview – BOC 101**  
Wednesday, September 15, 2010

**Facility Electrical Systems – BOC 107**  
Wednesday, October 20, 2010

**Energy Conservation Techniques – BOC 102**  
Wednesday, November 17, 2010

**HVAC Systems and Controls – BOC 103**  
Wednesday and Thursday, December 15 and 16, 2010

**Efficient Lighting Fundamentals – BOC 104**  
Wednesday, January 19, 2011

**Operation and Maintenance Practices for Sustainable Buildings – BOC 105**  
Wednesday, February 16, 2011

**Indoor Air Quality – BOC 106**  
Wednesday, March 16, 2011

These classes are scheduled from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

BOC Level 1 - \$1295 per participant, and \$895 for a second registrant or more from the same company.

The registration fee includes 74 hours of classroom instruction, seven course handbooks, facility project assignments, and certification recognition materials.

**For more information and to Register for these courses go to:**  
[http://www.theboc.info/ca/schedule\\_ca.html](http://www.theboc.info/ca/schedule_ca.html)



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### Southern California Gas Company Certified Green Building Professional (CGBP)

In today's economy 95% of the construction market is existing homes. 70% of the existing housing stock in California was built prior to the development of the Title-24 Energy Code and provides a great opportunity for energy upgrades as well as improving resource conservation and indoor air quality. As green building becomes more popular, homeowners and those purchasing homes are looking for contractors, architects and engineers who are qualified to provide green building services.

The following certification courses will be held at:  
**The Gas Company's Energy Resource Center**  
9240 Firestone Boulevard  
Downey, CA 90241

**Certified Green Building Professional (CGBP)**  
(Seminar # 23371)

Tuesday and Wednesday, September 21 and 22  
8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.  
(7:30 a.m. check-in and continental breakfast. Lunch provided)  
Early Bird members: \$350  
Early Bird non-members: \$400  
After 08-21-10 members: \$400  
After 08-21-10 non-members \$450

Build It Green's Certified Green Building Professional Training will help you establish yourself in this profitable niche and distinguish yourself from your competitors.

This course is followed by a written, certification exam.

**Green Home Retrofitting and Remodeling (Advanced CGBP)**  
(Seminar # 23372)

Thursday and Friday, September 23 and 24  
8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.  
(7:30 a.m. check-in and continental breakfast. Lunch provided)  
Early Bird members: \$350  
Early Bird non-members: \$400  
After 08-23-10 members: \$400  
After 08-23-10 non-members \$450

This two-day how-to course is designed to provide construction professionals with a practical, comprehensive, step-by-step process to effectively upgrade and remodel existing homes in all aspects of a green home.

**For more information and to Register for these courses go to:** [www.builditgreen.org](http://www.builditgreen.org)

## Calendar of Events

<p><b>Thursday, July 15</b>  <b>10:15 a.m.</b>  <b>1001 Partridge Dr.,</b>  <b>Suite 150, Ventura</b></p>	<p><b>VCREA Quarterly Board Meeting</b>  The VCREA Board meeting is open to the public.  The agenda is posted on the website: <a href="http://www.vcenergy.org">www.vcenergy.org</a>.</p>
<p><b>Thursday, July 15</b>  <b>(#23613)</b>  <b>8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.</b>  <b>Southern California</b>  <b>Edison's - CTAC</b>  <b>6090 N. Irwindale Avenue</b>  <b>Irwindale</b></p>	<p><b>Implementing Energy Efficiency Projects</b> Energy managers and maintenance professionals will learn how to perform energy assessments, screening audits, feasibility studies, and the selection of proper equipment for commercial and industrial facilities. Come learn how to do a basic audit of your facility to determine if new equipment is worth the investment. <b>To enroll, and for more information visit the SCE website @ <a href="http://www.sce.com/energycenters">www.sce.com/energycenters</a>.</b></p>
<p><b>Wednesday, July 21</b>  <b>(#26096)</b>  <b>8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.</b>  <b>Southern California</b>  <b>Edison's - CTAC</b>  <b>6090 N. Irwindale Avenue</b>  <b>Irwindale</b></p>	<p><b>Daylighting Basics</b> This seminar is for architects, designers, and lighting professionals who would like to have a practical guide for designing daylighting systems that provide optimal lighting conditions while being energy efficient. Attendees will be given a comprehensive overview of daylighting design that considers daylight as a light source with both light and thermal properties. Daylight availability is examined with respect to site location, weather, and climate conditions. Topics include windows, skylights, tube skylights, light shelves, shade, and other treatments with respect to aesthetics, human performance, lighting quality, and energy efficiency. (6.5 AIA/HSW Learning Units) <b>To enroll, and for more information visit the SCE website @ <a href="http://www.sce.com/energycenters">www.sce.com/energycenters</a>.</b></p>
<p><b>Wednesday, August 4</b>  <b>(#23382)</b>  <b>9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.</b>  <b>The Gas Company's</b>  <b>Energy Resource Center</b>  <b>9420 Firestone Boulevard</b>  <b>Downey</b></p>	<p><b>Financial Analysis Techniques for Energy Efficiency Projects</b> Learn the insights, terminology and financial modeling techniques needed to assess and approve energy efficiency projects that will enhance your building's competitiveness, profitability and value. <b>For more information and to register online visit <a href="http://seminars.socalgas.com">seminars.socalgas.com</a> or e-mail: <a href="mailto:ERC@socalgas.com">ERC@socalgas.com</a>.</b></p>
<p><b>Thursday, August 5</b>  <b>(#23378)</b>  <b>9:00 a.m. to Noon</b>  <b>The Gas Company's</b>  <b>Energy Resource Center</b>  <b>9420 Firestone Boulevard</b>  <b>Downey</b></p>	<p><b>Benchmarking with ENERGY STAR® Portfolio Manager</b> Using a combination of classroom instruction and online demonstrations, this course will address the pros and cons of various benchmarking techniques, tips for optimizing your ENERGY STAR score and best practices for improving the score over time. Discussions will include AB1103 and changes that need to be implemented by non-residential building owners. <b>For more information and to register online visit <a href="http://seminars.socalgas.com">seminars.socalgas.com</a> or e-mail: <a href="mailto:ERC@socalgas.com">ERC@socalgas.com</a>.</b></p>
<p><b>Thursday, August 5</b>  <b>(#23388)</b>  <b>1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.</b>  <b>The Gas Company's</b>  <b>Energy Resource Center</b>  <b>9420 Firestone Boulevard</b>  <b>Downey</b></p>	<p><b>The Green Lease: Moving from Concept to Completion</b> This course will explore the latest in green lease templates: case studies of successful "green leasing" initiatives in the U.S. and abroad: and, the legal and practical implications of applying energy efficiency and other "green" principles to both new and existing leases. <b>For more information and to register online visit <a href="http://seminars.socalgas.com">seminars.socalgas.com</a> or e-mail: <a href="mailto:ERC@socalgas.com">ERC@socalgas.com</a>.</b></p>
<p><b>Thursday, August 12</b>  <b>(#26097)</b>  <b>8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.</b>  <b>Southern California</b>  <b>Edison's - CTAC</b>  <b>6090 N. Irwindale Avenue</b>  <b>Irwindale</b></p>	<p><b>Sustainable Building Envelopes</b> Designers, architects, and others will learn about the integrated design process and explore passive building measures for high performance green buildings. Topics such as building orientation considerations, high performance glass, advanced wall systems, cool roofing, and building integrated photovoltaic (BIPV) systems will be discussed. (4 AIA/HSW/Sustainable Building Learning Units) <b>To enroll, and for more information visit the SCE website @ <a href="http://www.sce.com/energycenters">www.sce.com/energycenters</a>.</b></p>

*All dates/topics are subject to change and provided to open discussion of regional interest and need.*

**VCREA Member Agencies:**

- County of Ventura
- City of Ventura
- City of Oxnard
- City of Santa Paula
- City of Thousand Oaks
- Ventura Regional Sanitation District
- Ventura County Community College District
- Casitas Municipal Water District
- Ventura Unified School District
- City of Camarillo
- City of Fillmore

**VCREA Mission**

To establish Ventura County, its communities and neighboring regions as the leader in developing and implementing durable, sustainable energy initiatives that support sensible growth, healthy environment and economy, enhanced quality of life and greater self-reliance for the region by:

1. Reducing energy demand and increasing energy efficiency and
2. Advancing the use of clean, efficient and renewable local resources.



**Calendar of Events**

<p><b>Tuesday, August 31 (#A6665)</b>  <b>8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.</b>  <b>Southern California Edison's</b>  <b>Ventura Service Center</b>  <b>10060 Telegraph Rd.,</b>  <b>Ventura</b></p>	<p><b>Sustainable Building Envelopes</b> Designers, architects, and others will learn about the integrated design process and explore passive building measures for high performance green buildings. Topics such as building orientation considerations, high performance glass, advanced wall systems, cool roofing, and building integrated photovoltaic (BIPV) systems will be discussed. (4 AIA/HSW Learning Units) <b>To enroll, and for more information visit the SCE website @ <a href="http://www.sce.com/energycenters">www.sce.com/energycenters</a>.</b></p>
<p><b>Wednesday, September 8</b>  <b>7:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.</b>  <b>The Gas Company's</b>  <b>Energy Resource Center</b>  <b>9420 Firestone Boulevard</b>  <b>Downey</b></p>	<p><b>Special Energy Conference – Energy Sustainability: Pathways, Policies and Pitfalls</b> This conference will examine how the energy solutions for California in 2010 and beyond will affect you and your company. Sustainable energy, its paths, policy implications and potential pitfalls to businesses will be explored. The conference will present the impact of government policies, incentives, risk management, SEC disclosures, community and market solutions. <b>For more information and to Register: go to <a href="mailto:signup@aesocal.org">signup@aesocal.org</a>.</b></p>

**VCREA Coordination Brings BOC Level II Certification Course Series to Ventura County Starts Tuesday, September 28, 2010 and Concludes Tuesday, February 15, 2011**

This course series provides 61 hours of classroom training, project assignments completed at the facility, and in-class exams administered at the end of each day of training; will be coming to our region to build upon the Level I series offered last year. BOC level II is intended for operators who have been BOC I certified and those who desire advanced training.

**For more information and to register for go to: [http://www.theboc.info/ca/schedule\\_ca.html](http://www.theboc.info/ca/schedule_ca.html)**

Cost: \$1295 per participant, and \$895 for a second registrant or more from the same company.

Location: Technology Development Center, 5100 Valentine Road, Ventura

**Ventura College Community Education presents cleanedison LEED Green Associate One Day Course – Tuition \$345.00 September 20, 2010 or December 6, 2010 from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.**

CleanEdison's live, one-day course covers everything you need to know to pass, and qualify you to take, the LEED Green Associate exam. The course will include: overview of LEED and the LEED Process; a review of all LEED ratings systems; review of green building concepts such as vegetated roofs, rapidly renewable materials, on site renewable energy, and low-emitting materials; U.S. Green Building Council core curriculum: Sustainable Sites, Water Efficiency, Energy and Atmosphere, Materials and Resources, and Indoor Environmental Quality; overview of Innovation in Design, Innovation in Operations and Regional Priority Credits; LEED Credit Synergies; test taking tips; and, formulating a study schedule.

**For information and to register online: [www.communityed.venturacollege.edu](http://www.communityed.venturacollege.edu) or call 805-654-6459**

**California Cash For Appliances Rebate Program Extended Until Funds are Depleted**

Consumers can combine these rebates with existing rebates offered by California utilities or appliance manufacturers. To see energy products that qualify for rebates, check out Flex Your Power at [www.fypower.org](http://www.fypower.org) and the ENERGY STAR® website at [www.energystar.gov](http://www.energystar.gov).

Follow three easy steps and get your rebate today: 1) **BUY** – Select and purchase an eligible energy-efficient appliance that is rated higher than ENERGY STAR® standards from a participating retailer or partner. Eligible appliances include clothes washers, refrigerators, and room air conditioners. A list of eligible appliances and retailers can be found at: [www.cash4appliances.org](http://www.cash4appliances.org); 2) **RECYCLE** – To receive a rebate you must recycle your existing, inefficient appliance. Your inefficient appliance can be recycled through an Energy Commission platinum partner, utility buy-back program OR you must take your appliance to a certified appliance recycler. A platinum retailer or certified appliance recycler will provide you with the recycling form to attach to your rebate application; 3) **SAVE** – Get Cash and Save Energy on Refrigerators (\$200), Clothes Washers (\$100), Room Air Conditioners (up to \$50). Your rebate package must include: a completed rebate application, a completed proof of recycling form; copy of original receive or an original rebate request; purchaser's utility bill. Mail-in completed rebate application package within 30 days of purchase starting April 22.

**For program rules and more information visit [www.cash4appliances.org](http://www.cash4appliances.org).**