

Energy Efficiency

Points: 5

11.) Government “Lights Out/Power Down” Policy

Have a “lights out/power down” policy, “lights out and electronics off when not in use” policy, and/or use building/office occupancy and day-lighting sensors.

DESCRIPTION OF MEASURE

The local government has an ordinance or policy to reduce energy use in its buildings for lighting and electronics when not in use. This may include adopting building management policies that require turning off all nonemergency lighting and electronics after hours; educating employees on turning off lighting and electronics when not in use and at night; and/or requiring the installation of occupancy sensors or day-lighting sensors in government facilities. Occupancy sensors are electronic control units that use motion detection to turn lights on and off. Day-lighting sensors or photosensors are electronic control units that automatically adjust the output level of electric lights based on the amount of light detected.

DOCUMENTATION REQUIRED FOR CREDIT

- ✓ A copy of the local government policy or ordinance with date of adoption

It is the policy of Douglas County to turn non-emergency lights out and power down electronic equipment at the end of each work day. Therefore, all employees and building maintenance staff shall be required to turn off lights and all other non-essential electronic equipment when space within any city building is expected to be out of use for four or more hours.

Also, Douglas County has installed occupancy light sensors in all restrooms in the courthouse and the sensors automatically turn lights off when motion has not been detected in over 10 minutes.