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GSA Expands Green Proving Ground Program, Announces Innovative Technologies to Drive Toward Net-Zero in Federal Buildings

President Biden's Investing in America Agenda to Quadruple Number of Emerging and Sustainable Technologies in Key Program

SAN FRANCISCO, CA — U.S. General Services Administrator Robin Carnahan today announced a significant expansion of the agency's Green Proving Ground (GPG) program through President Biden's Investing in America agenda. This year the GPG program, in collaboration with the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), has selected 18 emerging and sustainable technologies for real-world evaluation in GSA's federally owned real estate portfolio, a major increase over the program's previous capacity due to Inflation Reduction Act funding.

During remarks at the American Institute of Architects' annual conference in San Francisco, Administrator Carnahan announced that GSA will be leveraging \$30 million in Inflation Reduction Act funding to bolster the GPG program and accelerate the agency's efforts to achieve net-zero emissions in federal buildings. This includes enabling the GPG program, which typically evaluates 4-5 technologies per year, to expand its capacity and take other steps to advance President Biden's goal to achieve net-zero emissions in the federal buildings portfolio by 2045.

"This significant expansion of the Green Proving Ground program is a prime example of how President Biden's Investing in America agenda is driving the next generation of clean energy jobs and innovation," said **GSA Administrator Robin Carnahan.** "Across the country, we're turning federal buildings into high-tech testbeds for clean energy innovation - which will mean more good jobs, savings for taxpayers, and a healthier planet for our kids."

The American-made technologies encompass seven areas:

Electric Vehicle Supply Equipment (EVSE) technologies are critical to supporting the transition to an all-electric fleet by 2035. The GPG program will evaluate four EVSE technologies: turnkey electric vehicle management from Loop Global, optimized charging from BP Pulse Fleet, a battery-buffered DC fast charger from ADS-TEC, and Vehicle-to-Grid charging from GM.

Germicidal Ultraviolet technologies use next-generation LEDs to disinfect air without increasing ventilation. The GPG program will evaluate technologies that offer the

opportunity to create healthier buildings while reducing energy use from Far UV Technologies, R-Zero, and PURO with the Academy Energy Group.

Greenhouse Gas Accounting technologies from Cambio AI and nZero will aim to go beyond static annual carbon reporting to active carbon management, including real-time 24/7 carbon-free electricity data.

Grid-Interactive Efficient Buildings deliver cost savings by leveraging technologies and strategies that provide continuous demand management and load flexibility. The energy management platform from COI Energy aims to optimize energy use through machine learning.

High-Performance technologies help reduce operational and embodied carbon emissions. The GPG program will evaluate automated duct sealing from Aeroseal, modular lighting and integrated controls from Signify, and bio-engineered, low-embodied-carbon concrete from Biomason.

Onsite Renewables are essential to meeting the Administration's net-zero goals. The GPG program will pilot an integrated solar battery from Yotta Energy that is the size of a briefcase and installed in place of ballast beneath a rooftop photovoltaic system and a parapet-mounted wind turbine from Accelerate Wind that can be installed at the edge of the building roof and complement rooftop solar.

Window Retrofit technologies help improve the performance of a building's exterior envelope. The GPG program will evaluate three technologies: vacuum-insulated glazing from Pilkington, R-14 secondary glazing from Vitro Glass, and a secondary window framing system from INDOW.

Some of these technologies will be tested at GSA's <u>Applied Innovation Learning Laboratories</u> to identify replicable combinations of technologies that deliver net-zero operations.

The GPG program leverages GSA's extensive real estate portfolio to evaluate innovative building technologies in real-world settings. The evaluations are intended to validate the technical and operational characteristics of the technologies and their potential for future wide-scale adoption. It is anticipated that the results of this year's evaluations will be available in 2025. Evaluation results help GSA make sound investment decisions in next-generation building technologies. Since 2011, GPG has evaluated 104 technologies, 23 of which have been deployed across more than a third of GSA's federally owned portfolio, saving 116,000 annual tons of CO2 and delivering \$28 million in annual cost avoidance. For more information, visit gsa.gov/gpg.

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