

LEED-NC VERSION 2.2 SECOND PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

The United States Green Building Council (USGBC) is accepting public comments on the **second** draft of LEED for New Construction (LEED-NC) version 2.2 through an on-line process. Submitting comments takes less than an hour; however, a user name (your e-mail address) and password is required before you can submit comments. **The deadline for submission of comments is July 30, 2005, 5:00 p.m. Pacific Standard Time.**

This document contains instructions for submitting comments to the USGBC and text that can be copied and pasted into the submission forms. This document also contains suggested comments on Indoor Environmental Quality (EQ) credits 4.2 and 4.3 on low-emitting materials.

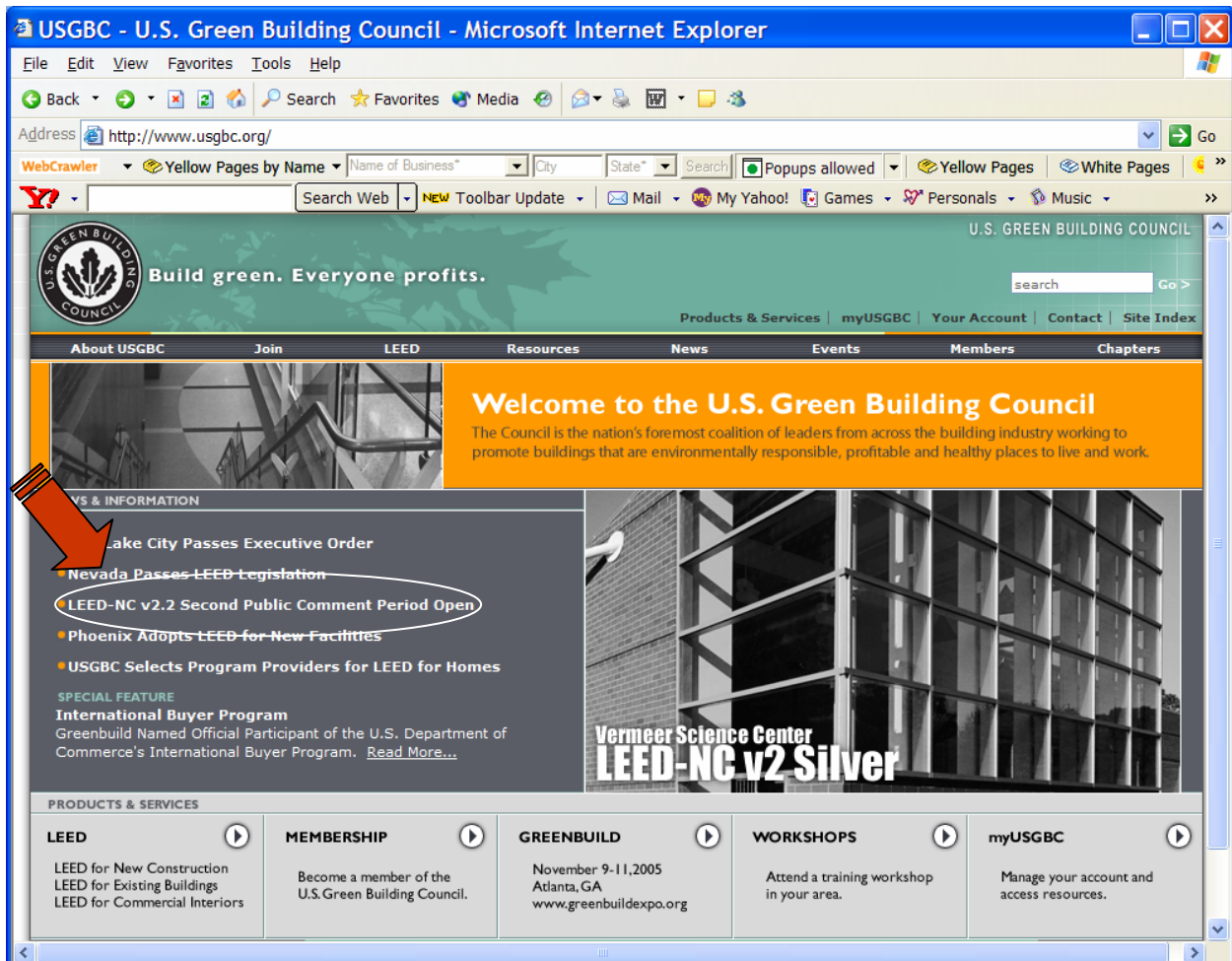
Text from the submission form is in **bold, green Ariel font.**

Text to be inserted into the submission forms is in **bold, black Times Roman font.**

Important instructions are in **bold, red Ariel font.**

How to submit comments to the USGBC on LEED-NC version 2.2

- 1) Go to the USGBC web site: www.usgbc.org.
- 2) Under News & Information, click on: [LEED-NC v2.2 Second Public Comment Period Open](#).



- 3) Go to the last sentence on the page and click on "Click here" in: [Click here](#) to comment on the LEED-NC v2.2 draft.

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LEED-NC v2.2 Second Public Comment Period Open

LEED-NC Committee
7/1/2005
U.S. Green Building Council

The U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC) is now soliciting comments on the second draft of the LEED for New Construction Rating System (LEED-NC), version 2.2. The second public comment period will be **open for 30 days from July 1st to July 30th, 2005 at 5:00 p.m. Pacific Standard Time.**

If you participated in the first public comment draft, thank you for your input and time in reviewing our draft. All comments have been collated and responded to and can be found at the bottom of the "LEED Draft Comments" webpage, in the "[myUSGBC](#)" area. Please note that similar comments were combined, and we have responded to all comments received.

The changes proposed in this version of the Rating System would not apply to currently registered LEED-NC version 2.0 or 2.1 projects or any projects that register prior to the release of LEED-NC v2.2. These changes would only apply to projects that registered after this new version is balloted by the USGBC membership and released for public use.

Anyone can comment on this draft, after registering a site user profile on the USGBC website. The USGBC will respond to all comments, and post the comments and responses (without commenter's names or organizations) to the USGBC website. The resulting draft will go before the USGBC membership for ballot. The official public release of the rating system is expected in the fall 2005. If you would like to participate in this comment period, go to "[myUSGBC](#)", log in and then click on "[LEED Draft Comments](#)" on the sidebar.

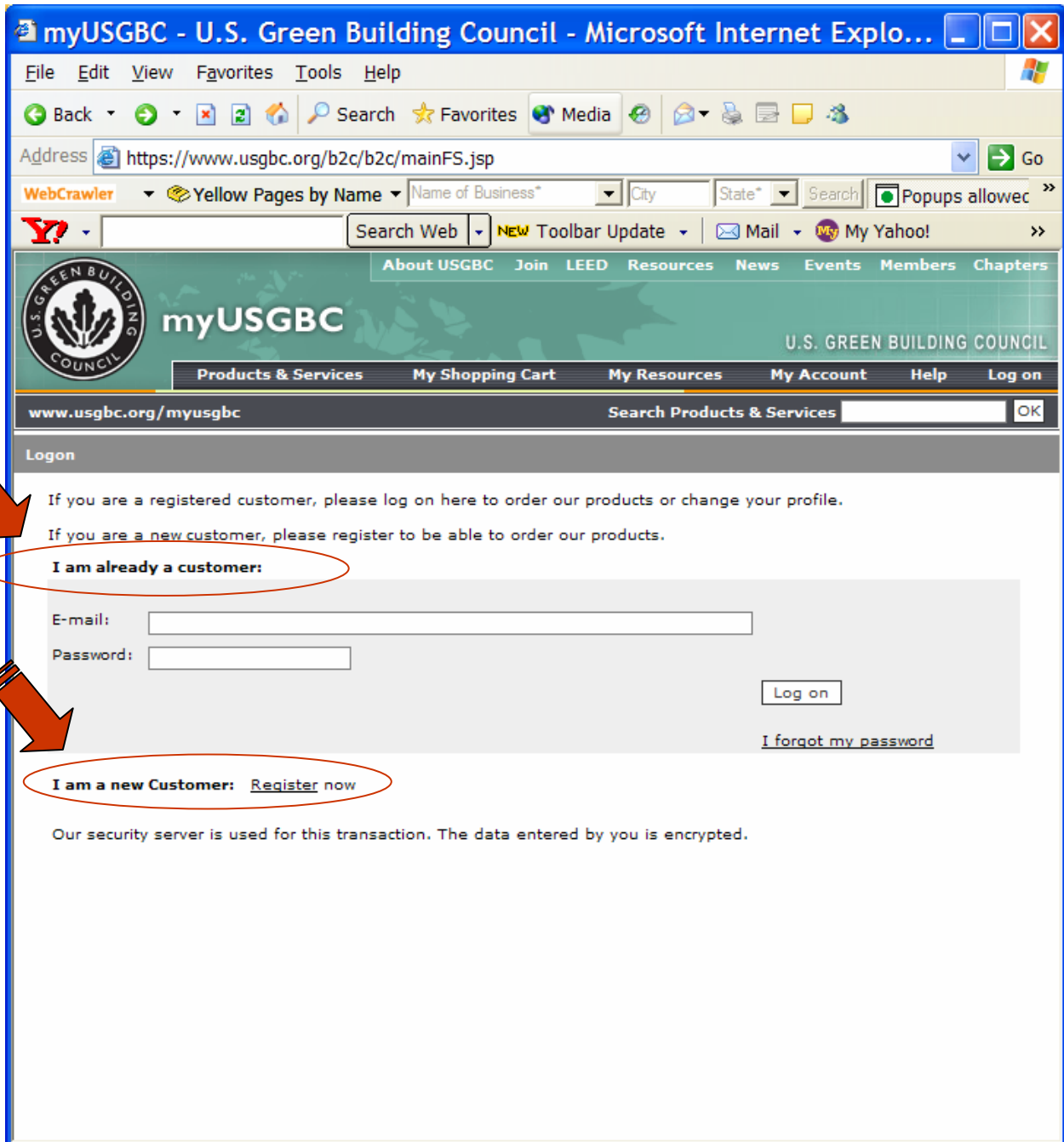
Click here to comment on the LEED-NC v2.2 draft.

VIEW ALL

Creekside Village Community Center
Buffalo, NY
LEED 2.0 Certified

4) Login.

- a) If you are not a member of USGBC, you must register as a new customer. Go to the bottom of the page and click on "Register" in: I am a new Customer: [Register](#) now. Fill out the registration form and submit it.
- b) If you are already a member of USGBC, you can login with your e-mail address and password.



- 5) Under "My Resources" on the left side of the screen, click "LEED Draft Comments".
- 6) Scroll down the page to Select a LEED Rating System Draft and click on "Submit Comments" in: LEED-NC version 2.2 (Open: 7/1/05 - 7/30/05) Submit Comments.

Submission deadline is July 30, 2005, 5:00 p.m. Pacific Standard Time. Late submissions are not accepted.

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- Forum
- LEED Draft Comments
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- LEED-NC Committee charged to develop LEED-NC v2.2 (March 2003)
- LEED-NC Committee worked with LEED Steering Committee, Technical Advisory Groups, and Technical and Scientific Advisory Committee to develop the First Public Comment Version of LEED-NC v2.2 (February -- October 2004)
- USGBC Board and the LEED Steering Committee approved the LEED-NC v2.2 draft for public comment period (October -- November 2004)
- First public comment period (December 3rd, 2004 to February 1, 2005 at 5pm PST)
- Second Public Comment Period (July 1st to July 30th, 2005 at 5pm pacific time)

To make comments on LEED-NC v2.2:

1. Read the draft rating system (below, entitled LEED-NC v2.2 Second Public Comment Draft)
2. Scroll to the bottom of the page for comment form*
3. Fill out comments for specific credits and "general comments" at the end of the comment form
4. If you have technical difficulties or other questions, email nc@committees.usgbc.org

First Public Comment Drafts- NOT CURRENT

[LEED-NC v2.2 Public Comment Draft \(clean version- no comments or changes marked\)](#)

[LEED-NC v2.2 Public Comment Draft \(Version 2.1 with red-line changes marked\)](#)

LEED-NC v2.2 Second Public Comment Documents

[LEED-NC v2.2 Second Public Comment Draft \(The most current, second public draft of LEED-NC v2.2\)](#)

[Red-lined draft A \(Shows the changes between the first draft of v2.2 and the most current, second draft of v2.2\)](#)

[Red-lined draft B \(Shows the changes between version 2.1 and the most current, second draft of v2.2\)](#)

[Summarizes the changes between the first draft of v2.2 and the most current, second draft of v2.2\)](#)

Select a LEED Rating System Draft:

LEED-NC version 2.2 (Open: 7/1/05 - 7/30/05) [Submit Comments](#)

7) Click on a **Category** ► to see a list of **Credits**

The screenshot shows the myUSGBC website interface. The main content area is titled "LEED Rating System Drafts (Open for Comments)". Below this title, there is a link to "LEED Rating System Drafts > LEED-NC version 2.2 (Open: 7/1/05 - 7/30/05)". A text instruction says: "Click on any arrow to view the detailed credits for a specific category and comment on the credits listed." Below this is a table with three columns: "Category", "Total Points", and "Comments Submitted". The table lists several categories, with "Indoor Environmental Quality" circled in red and a red arrow pointing to it from the left sidebar.

Category	Total Points	Comments Submitted
► Sustainable Sites	14	0 of 15
► Water Efficiency	4	0 of 4
► Energy and Atmosphere	17	0 of 9
► Materials and Resources	13	0 of 10
► Indoor Environmental Quality	15	0 of 17
► Innovation and Design	5	0 of 2
► General Comments	0	0 of 1

8) Click on **Make Comments** ► to open the comment screen for a **Credit**

The screenshot shows the myUSGBC website interface. The main content area is titled "LEED Rating System Drafts (Open for Comments)". Below this, there is a sub-header "LEED Rating System Drafts > LEED-NC version 2.2 (Open: 7/1/05 - 7/30/05)". A message states: "Click on any arrow to view the detailed credits for a specific category and comment on the credits listed." Below this is a table with columns for Category, Total Points, and Comments Submitted. The categories listed are Sustainable Sites (14 points, 0 of 15 comments), Water Efficiency (4 points, 0 of 4 comments), Energy and Atmosphere (17 points, 0 of 9 comments), Materials and Resources (13 points, 0 of 10 comments), and Indoor Environmental Quality (15 points, 0 of 17 comments). Under the Indoor Environmental Quality category, there is a detailed list of credits. The credit EQc4.3, "Low-Emitting Materials- Carpet Systems", is circled in red and has a red arrow pointing to its "Make Comments" link. The credit EQc4.2, "Low-Emitting Materials- Paints and Coatings", is also circled in red and has a red arrow pointing to its "Make Comments" link.

Category	Total Points	Comments Submitted
▶ Sustainable Sites	14	0 of 15
▶ Water Efficiency	4	0 of 4
▶ Energy and Atmosphere	17	0 of 9
▶ Materials and Resources	13	0 of 10
▼ Indoor Environmental Quality	15	0 of 17

Credit	Description	Points	Make Comments
EQp1	Minimum IAQ Performance	0	Make Comments
EQp2	Environmental Tobacco Smoke (ETS) Control	0	Make Comments
EQc1	Outdoor Air Delivery Monitoring	1	Make Comments
EQc2	Increased Ventilation	1	Make Comments
EQc3.1	Construction IAQ Management Plan- During Construction	1	Make Comments
EQc3.2	Construction IAQ Management Plan- Before Occupancy	1	Make Comments
EQc4.1	Low-Emitting Materials- Adhesives & Sealants	1	Make Comments
1. EQc4.2	Low-Emitting Materials- Paints and Coatings	1	Make Comments
2. EQc4.3	Low-Emitting Materials- Carpet Systems	1	Make Comments
EQc4.4	Low-Emitting Materials- Composite Wood and Agrifiber Products	1	Make Comments
EQc5	Indoor Chemical & Pollutant Source Control	1	Make Comments
EQc6.1	Controllability of Systems- Lighting	1	Make Comments
EQc6.2	Controllability of Systems- Thermal Comfort	1	Make Comments
EQc7.1	Thermal Comfort- Compliance	1	Make Comments
EQc7.2	Thermal Comfort- Monitoring	1	Make Comments

- 9) For each credit, three boxes are provided where you can submit comments by answering specific questions. We have provided some answers. Using the boxes provided for answers, you may copy and paste the text from this document or you may use your own wording.

The screenshot shows the myUSGBC website interface. The browser title is "myUSGBC - U.S. Green Building Council - Microsoft Internet Explorer". The address bar shows "https://www.usgbc.org/b2c/b2c/mainFS.jsp". The page header includes the myUSGBC logo and navigation links like "About USGBC", "Join LEED", "Resources", "News", "Events", "Members", "Chapters". Below the header is a navigation bar with "Products & Services", "My Shopping Cart", "My Resources", "My Account", "Help", and "Log off". The main content area is titled "LEED Rating System Drafts (Open for Comments)". It contains a breadcrumb trail: "LEED Rating System Drafts > LEED-NC version 2.2 (Open: 7/1/05 - 7/30/05) > Indoor Environmental Quality > EQc4.2". Below this is the heading "LEED-NC version 2.2 (Open: 7/1/05 - 7/30/05)" and a paragraph: "Please complete each section of this comment form. Your comments on this prerequisite or credit will be submitted immediately upon clicking 'SUBMIT' at the bottom of this form." The "Credit: EQc4.2 (Low-Emitting Materials- Paints and Coatings)" is circled in red. There are three numbered questions with corresponding text input boxes: 1. "Please provide a description of what do you like or do not like about this prerequisite or credit and why this is important to the sustainability of existing buildings:", 2. "Please provide a description of how prerequisite or credit could be improved and why this is important to the sustainability of existing buildings:", 3. "Please provide any specific language changes you would suggest for the intent or requirements for this prerequisite or credit and why this is important to the sustainability of existing buildings:". A "SUBMIT" button is at the bottom, followed by the text "* All submissions are final." A red arrow points to the "My Resources" sidebar on the left, and a red circle highlights the "Credit" text.

10) When you are finished, check for accuracy. You cannot make changes later!

11) Click **SUBMIT**.

12) Repeat process for the next **Credit**.

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Address: https://www.usgbc.org/b2c/b2c/mainFS.jsp

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Welcome Medgar Marceau

LEED Rating System Drafts (Open for Comments)

LEED Rating System Drafts > LEED-NC version 2.2 (Open: 7/1/05 - 7/30/05) > Indoor Environmental Quality > EQc4.3

LEED-NC version 2.2 (Open: 7/1/05 - 7/30/05)

Please complete each section of this comment form. Your comments on this prerequisite or credit will be submitted immediately upon clicking "SUBMIT" at the bottom of this form.

Credit: EQc4.3 (Low-Emitting Materials- Carpet Systems)

1. Please provide a description of what do you like or do not like about this prerequisite or credit and why this is important to the sustainability of existing buildings:
2. Please provide a description of how prerequisite or credit could be improved and why this is important to the sustainability of existing buildings:
3. Please provide any specific language changes you would suggest for the intent or requirements for this prerequisite or credit and why this is important to the sustainability of existing buildings:

* All submissions are final.

LEED-NC v2.2 Proposed Changes for the Concrete, Masonry, and Related Industries

The scope of version 2.2 is to revise existing credits within the current category structure (no addition or removal of credits is permitted in this version). The intent of version 2.2 is to incorporate credit interpretation rulings, fix credits, take out credits without environmental value, and improve clarity. Some credits have increased stringency consistent with USGBC's goal of market transformation.

The resulting draft will go before the USGBC membership for balloting. The official public release of the rating system is expected by fall 2005.

Comments on EQ 4.2 and 4.3

We recommend submitting comments for the following two credits under the Indoor Environmental Quality (EQ) category:

EQ Credit 4.2 Low-Emitting Materials - Paints and Coatings

The criteria for awarding points should be changed to award points based on low emitting surfaces regardless of whether they are painted or coated. We suggest changes so that in addition to awarding a point when surfaces are covered with low-emitting paints and coatings, a point can also be awarded if inherently low-emitting interior surfaces, such as concrete and masonry, remain exposed. You can use the following wording or your own.

1. Please provide a description of what do you like or do not like about this prerequisite or credit and why this is important to the sustainability of existing buildings:

The name of this credit gives an unfair advantage to paints and coatings because it implies that all surfaces require painting or coating. However, many inherently low-emitting surfaces, such as concrete and masonry, do not require painting or coating. Under the current credit definition, a project with such surfaces and without any paints or coatings would be ineligible for this point. Also under the current definition, this point is inconsistent with the USGBC goal of resource conservation because it encourages the use of materials that are not necessary.

2. Please provide a description of how prerequisite or credit could be improved and why this is important to the sustainability of existing buildings:

This credit could be improved by changing the name to “Low-Emitting Materials – Paints, Coatings and Uncoated Surfaces”. In addition to providing no additional indoor air contaminants, uncoated concrete and concrete masonry can contribute to resource conservation (no painting or coating is required). The redefinition of this credit is logically consistent with improved indoor environmental quality. In fact, this redefinition would also contribute to resource conservation by eliminating (i) redundant coatings and coverings and (ii) the replacement and maintenance over time of painted and coated surfaces.

Concrete and masonry have extremely low VOC emission levels. The document prepared by the Environmental Council of Concrete Organizations, (www.ECCO.org Catalog Item EV20, download for free) “What’s Your IAQ I.Q.?”, on page 3, contains a table of VOC levels for different construction materials. The VOC level for concrete is the lowest of all the materials on the chart. Quality concrete and masonry are constructed for use as floors, walls, and ceilings. The design and construction of concrete and masonry is governed by specifications depending on the use and type of concrete or masonry. These include “American Concrete Institute (ACI) 302, Guide for Concrete Floor and Slab Construction,” “ACI 318, Building Code Requirements for Structural Concrete,” and “ACI 530.1, Specification for Masonry Structures.”

3. Please provide any specific language changes you would suggest for the intent or requirements for this prerequisite or credit and why this is important to the sustainability of existing buildings:

Change the credit name so that it reads “EQ Credit 4.2: Low-Emitting Materials – Paints, Coatings, and Uncoated Surfaces”.

Under “Requirements” add the following sentence: “For low-emitting materials that do require painting or coating, leave the surfaces bare”.

Under Potential Technologies & Strategies, add the following sentence: “Specify uncoated surfaces where coatings are not required, such as with concrete ceilings and concrete and masonry walls, decorative features, and structural elements.”

EQ Credit 4.3 Low-Emitting Materials - Carpet Systems

The criteria for awarding points should be changed to award points based on low emitting floors regardless of whether they are carpeted or not. We suggest changes so that in addition to awarding a point when surfaces are carpeted, a point can also be awarded if inherently low-emitting interior surfaces, such as concrete and masonry, are protected with a low-emitting coating. You can use the following wording or your own.

1. Please provide a description of what do you like or do not like about this prerequisite or credit and why this is important to the sustainability of existing buildings:

The name of this credit gives an unfair advantage to carpet systems because it implies that all floors require carpeting. However, many inherently low-emitting surfaces, such as interior concrete and masonry, do not require carpeting. Under the current definition, a project with such surfaces and without any carpeting would be ineligible for this point. Also under the current definition, this point is inconsistent with the USGBC goal of resource conservation because it encourages the use of materials that are not necessary.

2. Please provide a description of how prerequisite or credit could be improved and why this is important to the sustainability of existing buildings:

This credit could be improved by changing the name to “Low-Emitting Materials – Floor Systems”. In addition to providing no significant indoor environmental contaminants, coated concrete floors can contribute to resource conservation because no additional flooring material is needed. The redefinition of this credit is logically consistent with improved indoor environmental quality. In fact, this redefinition would also contribute to resource conservation by eliminating (i) redundant floor coverings and (ii) the manufacture, use, replacement, disposal, and associated transportation of redundant flooring.

Concrete and masonry are products with extremely low VOC emission level. The document prepared by the Environmental Council of Concrete Organizations, (www.ECCO.org Catalog Item EV20, download for free) “What’s Your IAQ I.Q.?”, on page 3, contains a table of VOC levels for different construction materials. The VOC level for concrete is the lowest of all the materials on the chart. Quality concrete and masonry are constructed for use as floors, walls, and ceilings. The design and construction of concrete and masonry is governed by specifications depending on the use and type of concrete or masonry. These include “American Concrete Institute (ACI) 302, Guide for Concrete Floor and Slab Construction,” “ACI 318, Building Code Requirements for Structural Concrete,” and “ACI 530.1, Specification for Masonry Structures.”

3. Please provide any specific language changes you would suggest for the intent or requirements for this prerequisite or credit and why this is important to the sustainability of existing buildings:

Change the credit name so that it reads “EQ Credit 4.2: Low-Emitting Materials – Floor Systems”.

Under “Requirements” add the following sentence: “For low-emitting materials that do require carpeting, protect the surface with a low-emitting coating that meets the requirements of EQ Credit 4.2.”

Under Potential Technologies & Strategies, add the following sentence: “Specify uncarpeted concrete where carpet is not required.”