

Reduction of Energy Consumption

A board shall establish a long-range energy plan to reduce a district's annual electric consumption by five percent beginning with the 2008 state fiscal year and consume electricity in subsequent fiscal years in accordance with the district's energy plan. The plan must include:

1. Strategies for achieving energy efficiency, including facility design and construction, that:
 - a. Result in net savings for the district; or
 - b. Can be achieved without financial cost to the district; and
2. For each strategy identified above, the initial, short-term capital costs and lifetime costs and savings that may result from implementation of the strategy.

In determining whether a strategy may result in financial cost to the district, the board shall consider the total net costs and savings that may occur over the seven-year period following implementation of the strategy.

The board may submit the plan to the State Energy Conservation Office for the purposes of determining whether funds available through loan programs administered by the office or tax incentives administered by the state or federal government are available to the district. The board may not disallow any proper allocation of incentives.

Education Code 44.902

Energy or Water Conservation Measures

"Energy savings performance contract" has the meaning assigned by Local Government Code 302.001.

Each energy or water conservation measure must comply with current local, state, and federal construction, plumbing, and environmental codes and regulations. An energy savings performance contract may not include improvements or equipment that allow or cause water from any condensing, cooling, or industrial process or any system of nonpotable usage over which the public water supply system officials do not have sanitary control, to be returned to the potable water supply.

The board may enter into energy savings performance contracts only with persons who are experienced in the design, implementation, and installation of the energy or water conservation measures addressed by the contract.

The contracting and delivery procedures for construction projects described at Government Code Chapter 2269 do not apply to energy savings performance contracts.

Performance Bond Before entering an energy savings performance contract, a board shall require the provider of the energy or water conservation measures to file a payment and performance bond relating to the installation of the measures in accordance with Government Code Chapter 2253. A board may also require a separate bond to cover the value of the guaranteed savings on the contract.

Financing An energy savings performance contract may be financed:

1. Under a lease/purchase contract that has a term not to exceed 20 years from the final date of installation and that meets federal tax requirements for tax-free municipal leasing or long-term financing.
2. With the proceeds of bonds.
3. Under a contract with the provider of the energy or water conservation measures that has a term not to exceed the lesser of 20 years from the final date of installation or the average useful life of the energy or water conservation or usage measures.

Notwithstanding other law, the board may use any available money to pay the provider of the energy or water conservation measures, and the board is not required to pay for such costs solely out of the savings realized by the district under an energy savings performance contract.

An energy savings performance contract for energy or water conservation measures shall contain provisions requiring the provider of the energy or water conservation measures to guarantee the amount of the savings to be realized by a district under the contract. If the term of an energy savings performance contract exceeds one year, the district's contractual obligations in any one year during the term of the contract beginning after the final date of installation may not exceed the total energy, water, wastewater, and operating cost savings, including electrical, gas, water, wastewater, or other utility cost savings and operating cost savings resulting from the measures as determined by the district, divided by the number of years in the contract term.

Contract Procurement An energy savings performance contract shall be let according to the procedures established for professional services by Government Code 2254.004 (the Professional Services Procurement Act). [See CH] Notice of the request for qualifications shall be published in the manner provided for competitive bidding.

The board may contract with the provider of the energy or water conservation measures to perform work that is related to, connected with, or otherwise ancillary to the measures identified in the scope of an energy savings performance contract.

Cost Savings
Review

Before entering into an energy savings performance contract, the board must require that the cost savings projected by an offeror be reviewed by a licensed professional engineer who has a minimum of three years of experience in energy calculation and review, is not an officer or employee of an offeror for the contract under review, and is not otherwise associated with the contract. In conducting the review, the engineer shall focus primarily on the proposed improvements from an engineering perspective, the methodology and calculations related to cost savings, increases in revenue, and, if applicable, efficiency or accuracy of metering equipment. An engineer who reviews a contract shall maintain the confidentiality of any proprietary information the engineer acquires while reviewing the contract.

Education Code 44.901

Recycling Program

In cooperation with the comptroller or the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ), a district shall establish a program for the separation and collection of all recyclable materials generated by the district's operations, including at a minimum, aluminum, steel containers, aseptic packaging, polycoated paperboard cartons, high-grade office paper, and corrugated cardboard. "Recyclable materials" includes materials in a district's possession that have been abandoned or disposed of by the district's officers or employees or by any other person.

A district shall also:

1. Provide procedures for collecting and storing recyclable materials, containers for recyclable materials, and procedures for making contractual or other arrangements with buyers of recyclable materials.
2. Evaluate the amount of recyclable material recycled and modify the recycling program as necessary to ensure that all recyclable materials are effectively and practicably recycled.
3. Establish educational and incentive programs to encourage maximum employee participation.

TCEQ by order shall exempt from compliance with these provisions:

1. A district with a student enrollment of fewer than 10,000 students; and

2. A district if the district petitions TCEQ for an exemption and TCEQ finds that compliance would work a hardship on the district.

Health and Safety Code 361.425

Certificate of Mold Remediation

When a district sells property, the district shall provide to the buyer a copy of any certificate of mold remediation that has been issued for the property during the five years preceding the date the district sells the property. *Occupations Code 1958.154(b); 16 TAC 78.150(e)*

Pools

Generally

An owner, manager, operator, or other attendant in charge of a public swimming pool, wading pool, baby pool, hot tub, in-ground spa, spray fountain, or other artificial body of water typically used for recreational swimming, bathing, or play shall comply with relevant pool safety standards necessary to prevent drowning adopted by the executive commissioner of the Health and Human Services Commission. *Health and Safety Code 341.0645; 25 TAC 265.181-.208*

Drains

Each public pool and spa shall comply with the drain cover standards found at 15 U.S.C. Section 8003. "Public pool and spa" means a swimming pool or spa that is open to the public generally, whether for a fee or free of charge. *15 U.S.C. 8003*