Postings: from the desk of Jim Brodrick

It's been a while since I've written in these *Postings* about the LED Site (Parking Lot) Lighting Technology Specification developed for the U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE's) Commercial Building Energy Alliances (CBEAs). The CBEAs were created to improve the energy efficiency of commercial buildings and are composed of the Retailer Energy Alliance, the Commercial Real Estate Energy Alliance, and the Hospital Energy Alliance. Alliance members work with DOE to explore solutions that reduce their energy costs, greenhouse gas emissions, and overall operating risks – and as you're no doubt aware, lighting has the potential for immediate returns.

Developed by CBEA members and lighting experts working in conjunction with DOE and Pacific Northwest National Laboratory (PNNL), the LED site lighting specification has gained traction since its release in 2009. The first to adopt it was Walmart, which to date has used it at three stores totaling more than 1.5 million square feet between them. At least three other CBEA members are currently using or in the process of implementing the spec at various sites across the country, and a number of others are considering it.

This Thursday (Feb. 17) from 12:00 noon to 1:30 pm Eastern Time, DOE will host a webcast on the CBEA site lighting specification, which will include a 60-minute presentation followed by a 30-minute live Q&A session. Michael Myer of PNNL will provide an overview of the spec itself, discuss deployment efforts to increase the adoption by CBEA members, and showcase sites that have successfully adopted it.

One of those sites is a shopping center in Falls Church, VA, owned by Regency Centers Corporation, which owns and operates many other such properties across the country. Michael will be joined in the webcast by Regency Centers' Mark Peternell, who'll discuss his company's experiences incorporating the CBEA site lighting specification as a retrofit into the 183,000-square-foot parking lot of the Falls Church location, where the resulting annual energy savings are projected at 70% compared to the 30-year-old incumbent system. Mark will also discuss why Regency opted for metal halide technology instead of LED at another of its locations, showing how each application is different, and that careful evaluation is essential to selecting the right technology.

Why so much interest in the CBEA site lighting specification? There are several reasons. First, it offers potential energy savings of about 50% compared to a typical code, and 75% or more when used with controls, which the spec allows for. There's also the lower maintenance costs that result from SSL's long life and superior durability – as well as the environmental friendliness of products that contain no mercury and are easy to control for light pollution. Plus the fact that CBEA specifications leverage the market power of the Alliance members to exert a positive influence on the overall performance of commercially available products.

The CBEA has also released specifications on high-efficiency parking structure lighting and LED refrigerated case lighting, and is currently working on one for 2'x2' troffers, but the webcast will focus on LED site lighting. That spec, like the others, can allow building owners to take advantage of SSL's energy-saving potential when and where appropriate by helping reduce the guesswork from evaluating new products in a marketplace where not all performance claims can be taken at face value – thus allowing building owners to take advantage of SSL's energy-saving potential when and where appropriate. I invite you to join us for Thursday's informative webcast, and to share this *Posting* with colleagues who may also be

interested.

As always, if you have questions or comments, you can reach me at postings@lightingfacts.com.