



September 2023

## Current Activities

### NGA Submits Public Comments to Buy Clean Colorado

The [Buy Clean Colorado Act](#) directed the Colorado Office of the State Architect (OSA) to establish maximum acceptable Global Warming Potential (GWP) limits for specific building materials, including flat glass, in public building projects. NGA submitted public comments regarding Colorado creating a List of Eligible Decarbonizing Building Materials/Products for Colorado Sales and Use Tax Exemptions. [Read NGA's response.](#)

### GSA Low Embodied Carbon Standard

The United States General Services Administration (GSA) announced that Vitro Architectural Glass, an NGA member company, was awarded a project for American-made sustainable glass for the Virginia courthouse. [Read about the project.](#)

This project is part of GSA's [six-month pilot program](#) applying interim Inflation Reduction Act Low Embodied Carbon (LEC) Material Requirements for eleven GSA construction projects, three including glass. [NGA provided public comments to GSA on the draft LEC Standard](#) in February, and we look forward to continued work with GSA on future sustainability efforts.



Lewis F. Powell, Jr. U.S. Courthouse in Richmond, VA. Vitro will supply low embodied carbon glass as part of the building modernization project.

[Access NGA's resources on Sustainability, including the Flat Glass PCR and Industry Average Flat Glass EPD.](#)

### Glass Cleaning Procedures Technical Papers Now Available in Spanish



Uninformed window cleaners may damage glass using improper cleaning techniques and tools such as razor scrapers. NGA has three glass technical papers (GTPs) on how to properly clean architectural glass. Two of these were written in collaboration with the International Window Cleaners Association (IWCA).

The GTPs, available in English and Spanish, can be downloaded for free in the [NGA Store](#). Fabricators should consider including these documents with glass deliveries, and glaziers should consider leaving the instructions behind at jobsites.

#### **English versions:**

- [Heat-Treated Glass Surfaces are Different](#)
- [Proper Procedures for Cleaning Architectural Glass Products](#)
- [Construction Site Protection and Maintenance of Architectural Glass](#)

#### **Spanish versions:**

- [Las superficies de vidrio tratadas térmicamente son diferentes](#)
- [Procedimientos adecuados para la limpieza de productos de vidrio arquitectónico](#)
- [Protección de la zona de construcción y mantenimiento de vidrios arquitectónicos](#)

## **Legislation for Schools Reintroduced**

The "Rebuild America's Schools Act of 2023" aims to improve public school infrastructure to ensure school facilities are safer for students. The bill would provide a total of \$130 billion over five years in grants and bonds for school facility capital needs that could include security as well as energy and general upgrades. [Find more details on the U.S. Congress website.](#)

## **DOE Study Shows Energy Codes Enhance Resilience and Reduce Deaths**

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) and the National Labs reported the resilience benefits of the 2021 International Energy Conservation Code (IECC) in response to more frequent and intense extreme weather events linked to climate change. The July 2023 report says that improved envelope efficiency required by the latest edition of the IECC can keep buildings at a safe temperature for much longer during power outages, which can reduce heat-induced mortality by 80%, and by 30% during extreme cold.

- [Read a summary of the ICC Building Safety Journal report.](#)
- [Download the DOE report.](#)

## **Event News**

## Thirsty Thursday Webinar: Hurricane Standards, Testing and the Product Approval Process TODAY at 1

Join us TODAY at 1:00 pm ET to learn the latest implications of hurricane glazing and preparedness. In this presentation, speaker Tanya Dolby of Intertek will cover hurricane standards history, the 2023 Florida Building Code, 8th edition; standards and testing; and Florida product approvals FLs, Miami-Dade NOAs, and Texas Dept. of Insurance TDIs.

The webinar is free, and registration is required.

[Register now.](#)



## The Power of Protective Glass and Glazing Webinar

Tanya Dolby

742 architects attended NGA's Architectural Record webinar, *The Power of Protective Glass and Glazing*, live on August 30. [Register to watch the recording.](#) The session featured NGA code consultant Thom Zaremba of Roetzel & Andress, Darrell Smith of the International Window Film Association, and Julia Schimmelpenninck of Eastman Chemical Company, with moderator Urmilla Sowell of National Glass Association.

Like the panel discussion held at NGA Glass Conference: Tacoma, this session for architects discussed security threats to schools and other public buildings, new state legislation for school security and the role of security glazing products tested to ASTM F3561 *Standard Test Method for Forced-Entry-Resistance of Fenestration Systems After Simulated Active Shooter Attack*.

## GlassBuild America is One Month Away

[GlassBuild America: The Glass, Window & Door Expo](#) will take place Oct. 31-Nov. 2, at Georgia World Congress Center in Atlanta, GA. Visit with the NGA Advocacy & Technical staff at the Industry Pavilion booth, and catch the *Need-to-Know Code and Regulatory Updates* presentation at the Main Stage Wednesday, Nov. 1, 10:30-11:15 am ET.

Registration is also open for the Glazing Executives Forum, held in conjunction with GlassBuild, on Tuesday, October 31. Leaders of contract glazing and full-service glass companies gather to learn and share best business practices unique to installing companies. The NGA Installing Committee will meet in person ahead of the Forum, from 8-8:45 am ET. The committee meeting is open to all, and separate registration is not required.

[Learn more and register for GlassBuild.](#)



GlassBuild America 2022 in Las Vegas

## Sustainable Industrial Processing Summit (SIPS 2023)

[FLOGEN Stars Outreach](#), a non-profit dedicated to achieving sustainability through science and technology, will hold the [SIPS 2023 summit](#), Nov. 27-Dec. 1, at Hyatt Dreams Playa Bonita, Panama. Urmilla Sowell will represent NGA at the summit as Co-Chair and will present *Architectural Glass for Improved Building Resiliency*. If you are interested in attending or presenting, please [contact Urmilla](#).

## Updated Glass Technical Papers

NGA volunteers updated three Glass Technical Papers (GTPs) through the systematic ballot process in August and September. Download the updated documents for free in the NGA Store.

- [FB33-11 Glass Use in Guardrails](#)
- [FM03-10 LEED® Recycled Content for Glass](#)
- [FB60-18 Understanding Reflected Solar Energy of Glazing Systems in Buildings](#)

NGA offers 88 Glass Technical Papers free to download for everyone. [Find them in the NGA Store.](#)

## Get Involved

### Call for Volunteers

Our active task groups meet virtually every four to six weeks to develop new technical resources and revise existing publications. Task group meetings generally last 30 to 60 minutes, with additional time on a volunteer basis to draft content. We are currently looking for volunteers for the following task group:

- The NGA Fabricating Committee's *Daylighting and Biophilia* task group
- The NGA Installing Committee's peer review of proposed edits to the Masterspec 088000 General Glazing Specification.

[See all active task groups.](#) [Email Amber Johnson](#) to join.

### Glass Samples Needed

NGA is seeking fabricated glass samples for a study on edge grinding post tempering. To participate, [email Amber Johnson](#) for details.

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NGA's advocacy and technical initiatives respond to the relentless, ever-changing challenges to our industry. NGA is the glass and glazing authority; we are a resource for our members and the industry at large. Our mission is to defend and protect as we champion the benefits of glazing and glass building products. We thank our volunteer members, industry partners and expert consultants who work tirelessly to ensure glass and glazing is at the forefront of all discussions impacting building regulations and innovation in construction.

## Your NGA Advocacy & Technical Services Team



*Top row: Urmilla Sowell, Karen Wegert, Georgia Scalfano, Amber Johnson*

*Bottom row: Tom Culp, Thom Zaremba, Nick Resetar, Nicole Harris*

Brought to you by the National Glass Association



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We welcome your questions and suggestions about the content of this newsletter.

Contact Karen Wegert at: [kwegert@glass.org](mailto:kwegert@glass.org)

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