



INL's Energy Innovation Laboratory has earned industry and sustainability honors from the International Institute for Sustainable Laboratories and the construction industry magazine Engineering News-Record.

LEED Platinum research laboratory wins design, construction honors

for INL Communications & Governmental Affairs

UPDATE: In January 2015, Engineering News-Record announced that the building had been selected as the Best Green Project in the nation for 2014. See INL's [news release here](#) and [ENR's video here](#).

A new Idaho National Laboratory research facility has earned international and regional acclaim for sustainable design and construction. The Energy Innovation Laboratory, the gateway to INL's Research and Education Campus, was recently named the winner of three prestigious industry and sustainability honors.

The International Institute for Sustainable Laboratories (I2SL) named the EIL as the winner of the 2014 Go Beyond Award, recognizing the EIL team's outstanding efforts to minimize the environmental impact of its facility. The award demonstrates extraordinary leadership, innovation, and achievement in sustainable high-technology facility design and construction.

And construction industry magazine Engineering News-Record's judging panel of architects, general contractors and engineers selected the EIL project team as the winner of its Best 2014 Green Project and Best Overall Intermountain Project awards for the Intermountain states of Idaho, Utah and Montana.

These awards honor the efforts of many individuals and organizations — INL, Ormond Builders, Inc. (contractor), Plan One/Architects (lead design firm), and REL Facilities, LLC (owner/developer) – over the course of several years to provide new, modern research space for the laboratory's missions.



[Click here to read the Engineering News Record article.](#)

Completed in late 2013, the 148,000-square-foot EIL has earned the U.S. Green Building Council's Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Platinum certification. Worldwide, fewer than 5 percent of research labs in the LEED registry are Platinum-certified.



The Department of Energy's Idaho National Laboratory has signed a 10-year lease agreement for the EIL, which was built under a third-party lease arrangement and is owned by Ormond Builders.

The energy-efficient design of EIL, which features high-performance lighting systems and controls, extensive daylighting, significant heat recovery, and high-efficiency laboratory fume hoods, led to a 49 percent reduction in energy use compared to a conventionally designed laboratory.

As the first LEED Platinum laboratory facility in Idaho, EIL incorporated a number of other sustainable design features. In addition to the building's low-flow water features, the facility's design eliminated all stormwater runoff by leading rainwater into the ground. EIL was constructed using at least 34 percent recycled materials, and 97 percent of the construction waste was reused, recycled or repurposed.

This facility is becoming a gathering place for national and international visitors, where researchers can share discoveries and insights into energy innovation. It incorporates flexibility for changing research requirements.

Enclosed corridors connect the laboratory's three separate buildings. (Photo courtesy Reed Miller of Ormond Builders)

The Energy Innovation Laboratory consolidates R&D to enable innovative solutions for national energy challenges, advanced clean energy and related environmental projects.

Read more about EIL from its [fact sheet here](#).

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