Step 1. Determining if B3-MSBG applies to your project, and if so, which path applies:
If you have a new or renovation construction project that receives bond money from the State of Minnesota, State legislation requires the project to use and follow sustainable guidelines. These guidelines are called B3-State of Minnesota Sustainable Building Guidelines (B3-MSBG).

There are a few exceptions to this requirement and there are two “paths” - one for New Construction and one for Major Renovations. For all situations, confirm applicability of the project and its “Path” using the Applicability Form available from the B3-MSBG website.

Step 2. Determining which B3-MSBG version to use:
If the project is applicable according to the Applicability form under one of the two paths, check which version of the guidelines apply using the following questions. Note if B3-MSBG is not required for a project, it may still be used on a voluntary basis. Also, projects subject to a given version of B3-MSBG may optionally upgrade to later versions. This is sometimes advantageous, especially with the new B3-MSBG Tracking Tool that is designed to work with the most recent version 2.1.

For Major Renovations Path:
Use B3-MSBG Version 2.1 or more current version; keep informed of future versions and their applicability.

For New Construction Path:
Has a B3-MSBG Schematic Design or later phase B3-MSBG report been submitted to the CSBR tracking team by December 31, 2009? ____
> If not, Use Version 2.1 or more current version; keep informed of future versions and their applicability.
> If yes, you may continue to use the version you have been using, however, upgrading to version 2.1 is strongly recommended.

Notes:
While a team may not know if a project will receive bond funds in the future, any project team that thinks bond funds may be applied for later, should be following B3-MSBG since many requirements need to be incorporated in early phases. Even projects in Predesign, Site Selection, and earlier phases should be using B3-MSBG if they will apply for bond funds. Also see the State’s PreDesign Manual for reference.

There is also a separately legislated requirement that all bond-funded projects meet MN Sustainable Building 2030 Energy Requirements if they have not already started the Schematic Design Phase on August 1, 2009. B3-MSBG Version 2.1 incorporates the SB 2030 energy requirement for those projects, but also allows projects not subject to SB2030 to use the former B3-MSBG energy requirements. This allows projects to upgrade to the more fully featured version 2.1 independent of whether or not they are subject to SB 2030.
The B3-State of Minnesota Sustainable Building Guidelines (B3-MSBG) are created and led by the Center for Sustainable Building Research at the University of Minnesota in collaboration with LHB Inc., and The Weidt Group for the State of Minnesota Department of Commerce and Department of Administration.

For questions and assistance regarding your project, compliance, the B3-MSBG Tracking Tool and other technical and application support, please contact Garrett Mosiman at 612-625-8409 or msbghelp@umn.edu. For questions about the B3-MSBG management, guideline development and editorial process, please contact Jonee Kulman Brigham at 612-626-7641 or kulma002@umn.edu.

B3-MSBG Guidelines: www.msbg.umn.edu B3-MSBG Tracking Tool: www.msbgtracking.com