



ILLINOIS BRICK COMPANY SELECTED FOR STATE'S FIRST NET ZERO BUILDING

As Illinois emerges as one of the top national leaders in LEED green building, the State has recently opened the first ever net zero building in Countryside, Illinois. A net zero building refers to buildings with zero net energy consumption. The Countryside Municipal Complex, using as much energy as it produces on-site, is the first of its kind within the State. Achieving net zero and LEED Gold Certification designations, the government building has achieved recent national acclaim.

Designed by the Dewberry firm and constructed by Frederick Quinn Corporation -FQC™ Construction Management, the 34,500 square foot complex sets the stage for other national civic buildings to become totally sustainable. Brick, being one of the most sustainable materials on earth, was a natural fit for the project. Illinois Brick Company (IBC), a pioneer in sustainable education and products, was the chosen supplier for this high-profile project.



Jack Hayes, President of FQC™ added, “The brick and stone were originally chosen more for their aesthetics than ‘Net-Zero’ aspects.” The Sioux City Collection by Glen Gery in Dunes Gray and Charcoal Gray Velour Utility brick provided sleek styling to the project. Halquist Stone Buff Brookfield added a linear, ageless beauty to the building’s facing. IBC President Nathan Karaway worked closely with the team on this project to ensure a modern and warm, yet highly sustainable exterior.



Other building features include a broad array of sustainable technologies, such as solar panels on the roof and a green roof to reduce stormwater run-off. Demonstrating how the facility achieves its energy performance, two educational exhibit spaces were included within the building’s hallways. The exhibits are open to the public and are a local attraction within the community.



As one the most energy-efficient buildings in all of America, there is no doubt that Countryside Municipal Complex building will soon become the model for many more green building initiatives in our State and many others.

Photos courtesy of Frederick Quinn Corporation



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