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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The U.S. Green Building Council Awards Orefield, Pennsylvania Home LEED Silver Certification for Green Homebuilding

March 20, 2008 (Washington, DC) – Today, an Orefield, Pennsylvania home was awarded LEED Silver Certification by the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC) for achievement in green homebuilding. LEED for Homes is a national third-party certification system for energy efficient, healthy, green homes. LEED-certified homes complete a technically rigorous process that includes a home energy (HERS) rating and onsite inspections to verify that the home is built to be energy and water efficient, environmentally sound, and a healthier place to live.

The Orefield home is the first LEED Silver certified home in the state of Pennsylvania and among the first in the entire nation. The home was built by multi-award winning home builder, *studio26 homes*, which is known throughout the state and country as an innovative industry leader in green custom home design and construction. Green homes have substantially lower utility bills and may qualify for advantageous financing, lower insurance rates and government incentives. Through their commitment to green homebuilding, *studio26 homes* is helping to expand this eco-conscious awareness and keep genuinely green homeownership competitively priced.

“The U.S. Green Building Council is proud to help celebrate *studio26 homes*’ commitment to greener living,” said Michelle Moore, Senior Vice President of Policy & Market Development, U.S. Green Building Council. “Their leadership – demonstrated in Orefield, Pennsylvania, is at the national forefront of quality; and their example can help us all to live better by reducing our environmental footprint, cutting our utility bills, and coming home to a healthier place to live.”

In addition to its many healthy home attributes, the Orefield home focused heavily on reducing energy use. The four bedroom project features a high-performance building envelope with triple-pane, low-E², argon-insulated windows; a high efficiency lighting design; a water efficient plumbing design; and an advanced HVAC system design among many, many others. The home is also equipped with on-site power generation through its 3kW solar photovoltaic system.

Zero-VOC (volatile organic compounds) paints, ultra-low-VOC stains, FSC-certified Brazilian Cherry flooring, formaldehyde-free insulation, and many recycled and local products have been used throughout the house. As a result of incorporating energy saving products and technologies, the

Orefield home achieved over 56% whole-house energy savings relative to a similar code-compliant home.

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About the U.S. Green Building Council

The U.S. Green Building Council is a nonprofit membership organization whose vision is a sustainable built environment within a generation. Its membership includes corporations, builders, universities, government agencies, and other nonprofit organizations. Since USGBC's founding in 1993, the Council has grown to more than 14,500 member companies and organizations, a comprehensive family of LEED® green building rating systems, an expansive educational offering, the industry's popular Greenbuild International Conference and Expo (www.greenbuildexpo.org), and a network of 77 local chapters, affiliates, and organizing groups. For more information, visit www.usgbc.org.

About LEED® for Homes

LEED® for Homes is a third-party certification system for high-performance green homes. Developed and administered by USGBC, LEED for Homes awards points to projects in seven categories of environmental performance: Location & Linkages, Sustainable Sites, Water Efficiency, Indoor Environmental Quality, Energy & Atmosphere, Homeowner Awareness, and Innovation and Design. To date, more than 200 home projects have been LEED-certified, and over 13,000 homes have been registered and are under development. For more information, visit www.thegreenhomeguide.org.



U.S. Green Building Council

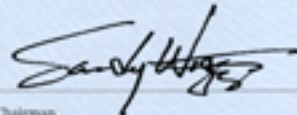
HEREBY CERTIFIES THAT

ADDRESS WITHHELD

OREFIELD, PA

HAS SUCCESSFULLY MET THE GREEN BUILDING STANDARDS REQUIRED FOR
THE FOLLOWING LEVEL OF CERTIFICATION UNDER THE LEADERSHIP IN
ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL DESIGN (LEED®) GREEN BUILDING RATING SYSTEM™.

SILVER
LEED for Homes


Chairman

March 2008


S. Richard Pedrini, President, CEO and Founding Chairman

