IT POLICY LETTER	NUMBER:
II I OLICI LEITEK	ITPL 09-04
SUBJECT:	DATE ISSUED:
COMPUTER ROOM CONSTRUCTION	APRIL 16, 2009
	EXPIRES:
	Until Rescinded
REFERENCES:	ISSUING AGENCY:
Government Code 11545,	OFFICE OF THE STATE CHIEF
State Administrative Manual, (Sections 4819.2 and 6560),	IN ORMATION OFFICER
Statewide Information Management Manual Section 18	
Public Contract Code 1102	

### DISTRIBUTION

Agency Secretaries
Agency Information Officers

Department Directors

**Department Chief Information Officers** 

### **PURPOSE**

To further the Legislative intent of the Global Warming Solutions Act (AB 32) and Government Code 11545(b)(3), the purpose of this Policy Letter is to reduce energy consumption by state agencies thereby reducing greenhouse gas emissions and minimize overlap, redundancy and cost in state operations by promoting the efficient and effective use of Information Technology (IT). In addition, the State Administrative Manual (SAM), Section 4819.2, defines "Information Technology Activities" to include "IT facility preparation, operation and maintenance." Specifically, this letter:

- Establishes a policy that requires approval by the Office of the Chief Information Officer (OCIO) prior to the expansion, modification, or new construction of computer room space.
- Defines exemptions to this policy in case of emergencies; and
- Outlines the procedures agencies shall use to initiate the OCIO review process.

#### **POLICY**

Effective immediately, OCIO approval will be required prior to the:

- 1. Construction of any new computer room space or site.
- 2. Expansion of any existing computer room.
- 3. Modification of any computer room.

Written authorization by the OCIO will be necessary prior to an agency initiating a CRUISE request to DGS, or any other site design activities conducted through another design entity. Further, OCIO approval will be necessary prior to purchasing facility equipment, including, but not limited to, power distribution and cooling equipment. Agencies and departments shall consult with the OCIO on a regular basis as to their data center and computer room requirements. Additionally, the OCIO may require that a third-party energy assessment be conducted prior to electrical, cooling, or heating recovery system enhancements to computer rooms. Effective July 17, 2009, any proposed computer room construction, expansion, or modification must be described and justified within an agency's consolidation plan.

#### APPLICABILITY

This policy applies to all state operated computer rooms, whether the computer

rooms are located in state-owned buildings or leased facilities.

The OCIO approval under this policy is required even if the proposed construction is related to an IT project with an approved Feasibility Study Report or Special Project Report, or to construction associated with equipment refresh or replacement.

#### **EXEMPTIONS**

Computer room repairs that are required as a result of an emergency will be exempted from needing prior OCIO approval. Emergency repairs, defined below, may be completed with concurrent notification to the OCIO.

# **PROCEDURES**

Agencies will submit a completed "IT Facility/Space Construction Review" form available in Section 18 of the Statewide Information Management Manual (SIMM) located at: <a href="http://www.cio.ca.gov/Government/IT\_Policy/SIMM.html">http://www.cio.ca.gov/Government/IT\_Policy/SIMM.html</a>. Forms should be submitted to the OCIO electronically in searchable open format (e.g. PDF) to <a href="mailto:ComputerRoom.Review@cio.ca.gov">ComputerRoom.Review@cio.ca.gov</a>. The authorized approving signature will be the Agency Secretary, the department Director if the department is not part of an Agency, or the official designee. Once the IT Facility/Space Construction Review form review has been completed, the OCIO will notify the submitting agency and the DGS.

For any construction that requires a third-party energy assessment, a copy of the energy assessment is to accompany the submitted IT Facility/Space Construction Review form. For direction regarding energy assessments, departments should call the OCIO prior to completion of the Construction Review form.

For Public Contract Code (PCC) 1102 defined emergencies, e-mail notifications should also be sent to <a href="mailto:ComputerRoom.Review@cio.ca.gov">ComputerRoom.Review@cio.ca.gov</a>. The notification should include the department name and organization code, the location of the computer room being repaired, and a brief description of the nature of the emergency.

## **DEFINITIONS**

For this policy, the following definitions apply:

- Agency: any Agency, department, board, commission, office or other organizational entity that is part of the executive branch.
- Computer room: any space that houses computer operations. Such computer operations could utilize mainframes, servers, or any computer resource functioning as a server.
- CRUISE: "Customer Requests: Upgraded Information Sharing Environment", the online system used by agencies to request services from the DGS Real Estate Services Division.
- Expansion: an enlargement of a computer room which increases the floor space for additional servers and/or server racks. An expansion may or may not require an enhancement of the site's electrical, cooling, or heat recovery capacities.
- Modification: a change to computer room structure and configuration that does not increase the floor space. A modification may or may not include an enhancement of the site's electrical, cooling, or heat recovery capacities.
- Enhancement: a change that increases the capacity of a computer room physical plant, including electrical, cooling, and heat recovery capacities.

- Third-party energy assessment: an energy assessment performed by an entity outside of the department requesting the construction, such as a utility company or a private vendor. The energy assessment will include at a minimum:
  - Cooling: environmental assessment, air handling, cooling plant optimization, right-sizing assessment, heat recovery.
  - Electrical: UPS and transformer efficiency, high voltage distribution, Standby generation, right-sizing assessment, redundancy, on-site generation.
  - o IT efficiency: Power supplies, use of standby/sleep mode, equipment fans, virtualization, load shifting.
- Emergency: defined in PCC 1102 as a "sudden, unexpected occurrence
  that poses a clear and imminent danger, requiring immediate action to
  prevent or mitigate the loss or impairment of life, health, property, or
  essential public services". SAM Manual, Section 6560, specifies that
  emergency expenditures cannot exceed \$25,000, unless approved by
  Finance.

## **CONTACT**

Questions should be directed to your OCIO PMO representative. A listing of PMO Managers and Principals and their departmental assignments can be found at the OCIO Web site located at:

http://www.cio.ca.gov/staffAssignments.html.

#### **SIGNATURE**

\_/s/

Teri Takai, Chief Information Officer State of California