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EDGE Excellence in Design for Greater Efficiencies (EDGE Expert) Exam Sample Questions (Q67-Q72):

NEW QUESTION # 67

Which of the following elements is considered in EDGE to estimate water use in homes?

- A. Solar water heaters
- B. Water heating
- C. Exterior fountains
- D. HVAC

Answer: B

Explanation:

The EDGE software estimates water use in homes by considering elements that contribute to potable water demand, focusing on indoor and occupant-related usage. The EDGE User Guide details the elements included in water use calculations: "In EDGE, water use in homes is estimated based on occupant activities, including water for showers, faucets, toilets, laundry, and water heating, which accounts for hot water demand in these applications. These elements are modeled using standard usage assumptions for residential buildings" (EDGE User Guide, Section 5.2: Water Efficiency Measures). Option B, water heating, is explicitly included, as it represents the hot water demand for showers, faucets, and laundry, which is a significant component of residential water use. Option A (HVAC) is incorrect, as HVAC systems primarily consume energy, not water, except in specific cases like cooling towers, which are not typical in homes: "HVAC systems in homes, such as air conditioners, do not directly contribute to water use in EDGE calculations, unlike in commercial buildings with cooling towers" (EDGE Methodology Report Version 2.0, Section 4.2: Water Savings Calculations). Option C (exterior fountains) is also excluded, as EDGE focuses on indoor water use: "Exterior water use, such as for fountains or irrigation, is not typically included in EDGE's water use estimates for homes, unless specifically modeled as an optional measure, which fountains are not" (EDGE User Guide, Section 5.3: Additional Water Efficiency Measures). Option D (solar water heaters) is a measure to reduce energy use for water heating, not an element of water use itself: "Solar water heaters reduce the energy demand for water heating but do not change the volume of water used, which is what EDGE estimates for water use in homes" (EDGE User Guide, Section 4.2: Energy Efficiency Measures). The EDGE Methodology Report further specifies: "Water use in homes is calculated based on per-capita assumptions for activities like showering, flushing, and water heating, ensuring a standardized baseline for savings calculations" (EDGE Methodology Report Version 2.0, Section 4.2: Water Savings Calculations). Thus, water heating (Option B) is the element considered in EDGE to estimate water use in homes. Reference:EDGE User Guide Version 2.1, Section 5.2: Water Efficiency Measures, Section 5.3: Additional Water Efficiency Measures, Section 4.2: Energy Efficiency Measures; EDGE Methodology Report Version 2.0, Section 4.2: Water Savings Calculations.

NEW QUESTION # 68

The Client has sent a copy of the local occupancy permit for a project being audited. This permit:

- A. Does not replace the need to audit all EDGE measures.
- B. Does not replace the need for desktop studies.
- C. Replaces the need to audit EDGE Materials measures.
- D. Replaces the need to audit all EDGE measures.

Answer: A

Explanation:

An occupancy permit indicates that a building meets local regulatory requirements for occupancy, but it does not address the specific green building measures required for EDGE certification. The EDGE Certification Protocol clearly outlines the role of such permits in the audit process: "A local occupancy permit provided by the Client confirms that the building complies with local building codes and is ready for use. However, it does not replace the need to audit all EDGE measures, as EDGE certification requires verification of specific energy, water, and materials efficiency measures that are not typically covered by local permits" (EDGE Certification Protocol, Section 3.4: Post-Construction Requirements). Option A, does not replace the need to audit all EDGE measures, directly aligns with this guidance, as the Auditor must still verify each claimed measure (e.g., insulation, low-flow fixtures, fly ash concrete) against EDGE standards. Option B (replaces the need to audit all EDGE measures) is incorrect, as the permit does not address EDGE-specific requirements: "Local permits do not verify EDGE measures like energy savings or embodied energy reductions, so a full audit is still required" (EDGE Expert and Auditor Protocols, Section 4.4: Site Audit Procedures). Option C (does not replace the need for desktop studies) is partially correct but less comprehensive, as desktop studies are only one part of the audit process: "Desktop studies are part of the audit, but the occupancy permit does not exempt any aspect of the EDGE audit, including site visits and measure verification" (EDGE Certification Protocol, Section 3.2: Audit Requirements). Option D (replaces the need to audit EDGE Materials measures) is also incorrect, as materials measures (e.g., use of fly ash concrete) require specific evidence like manufacturer's data sheets, not covered by an occupancy permit: "Materials measures require detailed documentation of embodied energy reductions, which local permits do not address" (EDGE User Guide, Section 7.2: Materials Efficiency Measures). The EDGE User Guide further reinforces: "The Auditor must verify all EDGE measures through appropriate documentation and site visits, regardless of local permits, to ensure compliance with the EDGE standard" (EDGE User Guide, Section 6.3: Post-Construction Certification). Thus, the occupancy permit does not replace the need to audit all EDGE measures (Option A). Reference:EDGE Certification Protocol, Section 3.4: Post-Construction Requirements, Section 3.2: Audit Requirements; EDGE Expert and Auditor Protocols, Section 4.4: Site Audit Procedures; EDGE User Guide Version 2.1, Section 6.3: Post-Construction Certification, Section 7.2: Materials Efficiency Measures.

NEW QUESTION # 69

Which of the following can deliver the highest efficiency in fans and pumps?

- A. Constant speed drive
- **B. Variable speed drive**
- C. Single speed drive
- D. Two speed drive

Answer: B

Explanation:

Efficiency in fans and pumps is a critical aspect of green building design in EDGE, particularly for reducing energy consumption in HVAC systems. The EDGE User Guide provides detailed guidance on efficiency measures for mechanical systems: "Variable speed drives (VSDs) deliver the highest efficiency in fans and pumps by adjusting the motor speed to match the actual demand, significantly reducing energy consumption compared to fixed-speed systems. VSDs can achieve energy savings of up to 30-50% in HVAC applications by avoiding the constant operation at full speed typical of single or constant speed drives" (EDGE User Guide, Section 4.2: Energy Efficiency Measures). Option D, variable speed drive, aligns with this description as the most efficient option. Option A (two speed drive) offers some efficiency by allowing two operating speeds, but it is less flexible than VSDs: "Two speed drives provide limited efficiency gains, as they cannot continuously adjust to varying loads, unlike variable speed drives" (EDGE Methodology Report Version 2.0, Section 5.1: Energy Efficiency Metrics). Option B (single speed drive) and Option C (constant speed drive) are essentially the same in this context, operating at a fixed speed regardless of demand, leading to energy waste: "Single speed or constant speed drives run at a fixed rate, resulting in higher energy consumption compared to variable speed drives, which modulate speed based on need" (EDGE User Guide, Section 4.2:

Energy Efficiency Measures). The EDGE Methodology Report further elaborates: "Variable speed drives are the most efficient option for fans and pumps in EDGE, as they minimize energy use by matching output to demand, unlike two speed or constant speed drives, which operate inefficiently under partial loads" (EDGE Methodology Report Version 2.0, Section 5.1: Energy Efficiency Metrics). This makes variable speed drives (Option D) the clear choice for delivering the highest efficiency in fans and pumps. Reference: EDGE User Guide Version 2.1, Section 4.2: Energy Efficiency Measures; EDGE Methodology Report Version 2.0, Section 5.1: Energy Efficiency Metrics.

NEW QUESTION # 70

A medium-rise building comprises retail on the first two floors with offices on succeeding floors (third to fifth). If one of the tenants on the third floor aims for EDGE certification, which building type should be used?

- **A. Office**
- B. Retail
- C. Mixed-use
- D. Core and Shell

Answer: A

Explanation:

The EDGE software requires users to select a building type (typology) to model resource consumption accurately, and the choice depends on the scope of the certification. In this scenario, a tenant on the third floor (an office floor) of a medium-rise building seeks EDGE certification. The EDGE User Guide provides guidance on selecting building types for tenant spaces: "When a tenant within a larger building seeks EDGE certification, the building type should reflect the tenant's space. For an office tenant on the third floor of a mixed-use building, the 'Office' typology should be selected, as the certification applies only to the tenant's space, not the entire building, unless the whole building is being certified" (EDGE User Guide, Section 2.2:

Project Setup). Option A, Office, aligns with this guidance, as the tenant's space is an office. Option B (Retail) is incorrect, as the retail floors are on the first two levels, not the third: "Retail typology would apply if the tenant space were on the retail floors, not the office floors" (EDGE User Guide, Section 2.2: Project Setup). Option C (Mixed-use) is also incorrect, as this typology applies to the entire building, not a single tenant space: "Mixed-use typology is used when the entire building, including all uses (e.g., retail and offices), is being certified, not for individual tenant spaces" (EDGE Methodology Report Version 2.0, Section 2.1: Calculation Approach). Option D (Core and Shell) is typically used for buildings certified up to the core and shell stage, not for tenant fit-outs: "Core and Shell typology applies to buildings certified without tenant fit-outs, focusing on the building envelope and systems, not individual tenant spaces like an office" (EDGE Certification Protocol, Section 1.2: Scope of EDGE Standard). The EDGE User Guide further clarifies: "For tenant-led certifications, the typology should match the tenant's use-e.g., 'Office' for an office tenant-even if the building has multiple uses, ensuring the Base Case reflects the tenant's specific consumption patterns" (EDGE User Guide, Section 2.2: Project Setup). Since the tenant on the third floor operates an office, the Office typology (Option A) is the correct choice for EDGE certification.

Reference:EDGE User Guide Version 2.1, Section 2.2: Project Setup; EDGE Methodology Report Version 2.0, Section 2.1: Calculation Approach; EDGE Certification Protocol, Section 1.2: Scope of EDGE Standard.

NEW QUESTION # 71

To claim efficiency measure Insulation for Cold Storage Envelope, which of the following documents is required as evidence at the preliminary certification stage?

- A. Purchase receipts showing the U-value specification of the cold storage envelope
- B. Manufacturer's data sheets for the HVAC system
- C. Calculations of Coefficient of Performance (COP)
- D. Drawing(s) showing the U-value specification of the cold storage envelope

Answer: D

Explanation:

The preliminary certification stage requires specific documentation to verify the implementation of efficiency measures like Insulation for Cold Storage Envelope. The EDGE Certification Protocol outlines the evidence requirements: "For measures involving insulation, such as Insulation for Cold Storage Envelope, the Client must provide drawings at the preliminary certification stage that specify the U-value of the installed insulation to demonstrate compliance with the measure's requirements. The U-value must be lower than the Base Case to qualify for savings" (EDGE Certification Protocol, Section 3.2: Audit Requirements). Option C, drawings showing the U-value specification of the cold storage envelope, directly aligns with this requirement. Option A (calculations of Coefficient of Performance) is irrelevant, as COP applies to HVAC systems, not insulation:

"COP is used for chillers, not insulation measures" (EDGE User Guide, Section 4.2: Energy Efficiency Measures). Option B (manufacturer's data sheets for the HVAC system) is also unrelated, as the measure focuses on the envelope, not HVAC: "HVAC documentation is not required for insulation measures" (EDGE Certification Protocol, Section 3.2: Audit Requirements). Option D (purchase receipts showing the U-value) is more relevant at the post-construction stage: "Purchase receipts are typically required at the post-construction stage to confirm installation, while drawings suffice for design-stage verification" (EDGE Certification Protocol, Section 3.4: Post-Construction Requirements). Thus, drawings with U-value specifications (Option C) are required at preliminary certification.

Reference:EDGE Certification Protocol, Section 3.2: Audit Requirements, Section 3.4: Post-Construction Requirements; EDGE User Guide Version 2.1, Section 4.2: Energy Efficiency Measures.

NEW QUESTION # 72

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