

3fficient Energy Audit Comparison

AUDIT STEP	Action	Level 1	Level 2	RCxA	Level 3	USGBC LEED	GBA ¹
1. Setup	Phone Interview / Project Setup	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Gather Building Information (Utility Bills, Occupancy, Schedule, etc)	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
2. Data Gather	Interview with Building Owner	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
	Interview with Maintenance and Operations Staff	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	+
	Interview with Financial Officer		+		+	✓	✓
	Building Survey: Equipment Overview	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Building Survey: Detailed Building Energy Performance and Equipment Analysis		+	✓	✓		+
	Building Survey: Comprehensive Building Energy Performance and Equipment Evaluation				+		+
	Building Survey: Comprehensive Building Energy Operations Evaluation				✓		+
	Sustainable Building - Land Use Evaluation					✓	+
	Sustainable Building - Water Use Evaluation					✓	+
	Sustainable Building - Air Quality Measurements and Evaluation					✓	+
	Sustainable Building - Material Use Evaluation					✓	+
	Sustainable Building Operation Policy Review					✓	+
	Utility Bill Summary (Energy Bills Only)	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
3. Engineering	Utility Bill Benchmarking and Rate Analysis (Energy Bills Only)	+	+		+	✓	+
	Electric Interval Data Analysis		+		+		+
	Energy End Use Profiles		✓		✓		✓
	Energy Savings Calculations		✓		✓		✓
	Energy Systems Modeling				✓		+
	Retro-commissioning (RCx) Assessment			✓	+		+
	Preliminary Engineering Design (Energy systems only)				+		+
	Basic Cost/Savings Analysis (Energy Only)	✓	✓		✓		✓
	More accurate cost/savings analysis		+		+		+
	Sustainable Building - Land Use Analysis					✓	✓
	Sustainable Building - Water Use Analysis					✓	✓
	Sustainable Building - Air Quality Impact Analysis					✓	✓
	Sustainable Building - Material Use Analysis					✓	✓
	Sustainable Building - Propose Preliminary Sustainable Building Design					✓	✓
	Financial Analysis (Sustainable Building: Land, Water, Air, & Materials)					✓	✓
4. Reporting	Overview of Building History	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
	Building Occupant Interview Information	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
	Utility Bill Analysis	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
	EPA Energy Star Certification				+	✓	+
	Energy Model		✓		✓		✓
	Existing Equipment Condition	✓	✓		✓		✓
	Energy - No Cost / Low Cost O&M Measures	✓	+		✓		✓
	Recommended Capital Improvements		✓		✓		✓
	Recommended Green Building Improvements		+		✓		✓
	Recommended Clean Energy Improvements		+		✓		✓
	Retro-commissioning Services				+		+
	Utility Demand Response Measures				+		+
	Sustainable Building - Existing Conditions (Land, Water, IAQ, Materials)					✓	✓
	Sustainable Building - Low Cost / No Cost O&M Measures					✓	✓
	Sustainable Building - Capital Improvement Measures					✓	+
	Sustainable Building - Overall Design Concept					✓	+
	USGBC LEED Assessment (Brief)		+		+	✓	
	USGBC LEED Assessment (Detailed)						+
	Rebates and Incentive Opportunities		+	+	+	✓	+
	ROI or Payback Analysis		+		+	✓	✓
	Cash Flow Model and Pro Forma		+		+	✓	✓
	Advanced Financial Analysis ²	ROI	ROI, NPV	ROI	ROI, LCA	ROI, NPV	ROI, NPV
Accuracy		70%	85%	85%	95%	85%	95%

Notes:

1. 3fficient pioneered the first comprehensive green building audits (GBA) in 1994.

2. Most auditors only provide simple payback analysis, 3fficient provides multiple financial metrics based on client CFO or controller investment criteria.

3. ✓ Industry standard. + Also included by 3fficient (exceeds industry standard).