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PHIUS+ Certified and Pre-Certified Projects Surpass 1M SF Milestone

Significant gains in passive building construction in the multifamily housing sector fuels growth to more than 1,200 certified units nationwide

Chicago – June 8, 2016 – Passive House Institute US (PHIUS) announced that PHIUS+ Certified and Pre-Certified projects now total **more than 1 million square feet across 1,200 units** nationwide. The cost-optimized PHIUS+ 2015 Standard is spurring new growth in passive buildings from coast to coast, with the most significant gains coming from the multifamily housing sector.

Projects are designated as Pre-Certified once the building design and energy model have been verified by the PHIUS certification team as meeting the requirements of the PHIUS+ Passive Building Standard. The building achieves final certification once the PHIUS+ Rater/Verifier performs QA/QC onsite verification at the end of construction.

The **PHIUS+ 2015 Passive Building Standard** released by Passive House Institute US (PHIUS) in March of 2015 is the only passive building standard on the market based upon climate-specific comfort and performance criteria, and the only passive building standard that requires onsite QA/QC for certification. Developed in cooperation with Building Science Corporation under a US Department of Energy grant, the PHIUS+ 2015 Standard makes passive building affordable by targeting the sweet spot between investment and payback to present a cost-effective solution to achieving the most comfortable and efficient building possible for a given climate and location, while also offering the best path for achieving zero energy and carbon. The resulting building performs 60-85% better (depending on climate zone and building type) on an energy consumption basis when compared to a code compliant building (International Energy Conservation Code IECC 2009), due to heating and cooling load reductions of 86% and 46% respectively on average over all climates and an overall site EUI of 10-20 kBtu/ft² per year.

PHIUS Board Member Ginger Watkins' Byre Knoll project, a PHIUS+ Pre-Certified single-family home located in Elizabethtown, Kentucky, proved the tipping point project to surpass the 1 million square feet threshold.

PHIUS Executive Director Katrin Klingenberg is excited about the progress being made to make passive buildings accessible to more people. "Achieving the 1 million square feet mark for

PHIUS+ Certified and Pre-Certified projects is a tremendous milestone,” she says. “We are seeing the demand for these types of projects growing in the marketplace as the PHIUS+ Passive Building Standard has equipped the industry with the climate-specific, cost-optimized standard it needs to make these projects a reality.”

About PHIUS

PHIUS is a 501(c)(3) organization committed to making high-performance passive building the mainstream market standard. PHIUS is transforming the building sector by developing and promoting North American specific standards, practices, and certifications for buildings, professionals, and products to create structures that are durable, comfortable, healthy, and super energy efficient.

Founded in 2003, PHIUS has trained over 2,000 architects, engineers, energy consultants, energy raters, and builders in the passive building standard. The organization is the leading passive building research and information provider in North America. PHIUS released the PHIUS+ 2015 climate-specific building standard, developed under a DOE grant in partnership with Building Science Corporation, in March of 2015. In addition to the DOE, PHIUS has also established strategic relationships with key organizations including RESNET and the Home Innovation Research Labs, among others. The organization has received funding from the Richard King Mellon Foundation and, more recently, the John D. and Katherine T. MacArthur Foundation.

Through its [Passive House Alliance US \(PHAUS\)](#) program, a membership-based organization with over 800 members across 18 local chapters and dozens of corporate sponsors, PHIUS is building a robust national network of passive building communities across North America.

Learn more at www.phius.org.