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To Whom It May Concern:

The LEED Materials and Resources credits 3.1, 3.2, 4.1, 4.2 5.1 and 5.2 specifically state that **"Mechanical, electrical and plumbing components and specialty items such as elevators shall not be included in this calculation."** Wilkins has researched the details of these LEED credits with the United States Green Building Council (USGBC) and it is true that LEED Materials and Resources credits cannot be achieved through the use of plumbing components no matter what amount of recycled materials are used in their manufacture. The academic nature of LEED credits with its current popularity has the building industry struggling to assimilate LEED issues. Many people are assuming ALL building products are counted toward LEED credits in the Materials & Resources sections, this is not the case. Please forward this document as an educational answer to queries you receive on plumbing products and Materials & Resources LEED credits.

Wilkins backflow products that may contribute toward LEED credits are the 400 Series Backflow Preventers. The LEED Sustainable Sites credit, SS 5.2, deals with site development and maximizing open space. Wilkins 450, 450DA, 475, 475DA, 475V & 475DAV have a smaller "foot print" than traditional horizontal backflow preventers, thus allowing more open space. If installed outside, the 400 Series would have a smaller concrete pad or enclosure. If installed inside, the mechanical room could be designed smaller; reducing the overall foot print of the structure. This space saving can be calculated and the sq. ft. reduction can be added toward achieving the final SS 5.2 goals.

Wilkins water pressure reducing valves may contribute toward the LEED Water Efficiency credit, WE 1.1, when used in landscape irrigation systems. Reducing water pressure in an irrigation system reduces water consumption and increases water efficiency.

Zurn Industries, LLC strives to develop and engineer products that help create "green" buildings. Wilkins products may be used strategically to assist in the overall and comprehensive plan to achieve LEED credit. For additional assistance on Wilkins products for LEED/"green" projects, please feel free to contact me directly. Thank you for your inquiry into Wilkins products and their contribution to achieving LEED credits.

Sincerely,

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