



# Central Texas–Balcones

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**Nominees:** Please answer the following questions in the space provided and return this completed Application Form plus the signed attached Commitment Form to [buhlrich@usgbc-centraltexas.org](mailto:buhlrich@usgbc-centraltexas.org) in an electronic format by 5:00 pm, **Friday, September 9, 2011**. Email or call Brian Uhlrich at 210-546-0200 with any questions.

This application will be made available to the Nominations Committee for evaluation and to the Chapter membership for consideration during the election process. The Committee reserves the right to delete narrative exceeding the space provided. Thank you!

### Submitted By:

Name: Nick Benjamin  
Title: Manager of Preconstruction & Estimating  
Company/Organization: Kiewit Building Group  
Address: 901 S. MoPac, Bldg 3, Suite 125, Austin, TX 78746  
Telephone: 512-314-2733  
Email: [nick.benjamin@kiewit.com](mailto:nick.benjamin@kiewit.com)

Membership Category (Primary business of your company or organization – see list in Board of Directors Fact Sheet):  
Contractors & Builders

- i. Is your company or organization a member of the National USGBC? Y / N  
Yes
- ii. Are you a member of the USGBC Central Texas – Balcones Chapter? Y / N  
If yes, when did you become a member?  
Yes. 2010

Signature:  Date: 8-16-11  
Nick Benjamin

Print Name \_\_\_\_\_

**Questionnaire – Please note that answers will appear online as they are answered below:**

- a. In general, why do you wish to be a member of the Chapter Board?

I'm very passionate about incorporating sustainable practices in the building industry. If I'm elected to the board I'll be able to create enthusiasm inside and outside of the USGBC organization and instill some of my ideas. In addition to my passion, my company's sustainable culture is very strong with over 150 LEED Accredited professionals. We are also committed to the Chapter by being a sponsor and participating in events such as the Green School Symposium and LEED for the Future Symposium.

- b. Please provide a summary of your professional qualifications, knowledge and experience of most relevance to the Chapter. Also indicate the degree to which you have senior management and executive level experience.

I became a LEED AP in 2007 and a BD+C in 2010. I've estimated several projects with different LEED certification levels from Certified to Platinum. I've worked in the Denver and Omaha markets so I have a broad experience with Green Buildings and sustainable practices.

I manage all the Texas area Preconstruction and Estimating efforts, with a focus in Central Texas. Because of this, I'm able to influence design requirements for a building including material selections and push for recycling or building re-use early in the design stage.

- c. The Chapter is committed to strengthening its membership diversity. What resources could you bring to bear (e.g., demonstrated expertise, leadership positions, and willingness) to help further Chapter participation from high priority sectors including: real estate, energy/utility, finance/insurance, residential, corporate, and product manufacturing? You can also address other sectors you think require greater involvement in the Chapter.

In the Preconstruction department, I can promote the Chapter to our large subcontractor following. I meet or talk with numerous subcontractors on a weekly basis.

In addition to our Preconstruction department, Kiewit has a Post-Construction department that focuses on commissioning and sustainability. Our Post-Construction department can give presentations or lunch n learns about energy efficiencies and commissioning best practices.

- d. One of the important functions of Board members is fundraising and other activities to support priority needs of the Chapter. This may take many forms, including: direct sponsorships; helping secure funding or otherwise opening doors from corporate, governmental, and charitable sources; seeking third-party sponsors; recruiting important new members; in-kind support, etc. Please explain your ability and willingness to participate in resource development.

Being part of the Contractor Community, I can reach several subcontractors and designers that also have a passion for Green Buildings. I'm actively involved in numerous organizations including: RECA, AGC, ABC, AYC, etc. I can be the Chapter's advocate in each of these organizations.

- e. Describe what expertise, experience and resources you would bring to any of the following priority activities: advocacy, LEED, marketing and communications, education, fundraising, research, community and organizational excellence.

I think I bring something to all of these activities through the use of my contacts in the contracting community and by using our internal resources such as our Post-Construction department. The one activity that I relate to most is Education. I believe attending events and hosting events is the most effective way to learn and promote.

- f. Describe your experience from other organizations with successful chapter programs.

Of all the organizations I've been a part of, the most successful ones are the groups that keep things fresh, new and up to date. They also have a deep understanding of the philosophy, purpose and goals of the group.

- g. Outline any leadership positions (volunteer or professional staff) with nonprofit governance

Austin Zoo - Volunteer  
Denver Inner City Reading Club - Volunteer  
Austin BIM Group - President

- h. Other areas of your qualifications and experience you believe are critical for the Chapter.

I have a wide array of General Building knowledge that I think would be very beneficial to the Chapter and it's members.

- i. Please identify any affiliations, memberships, and accreditations you have which may be pertinent for Chapter leadership.

My company is a USGBC National Member. I'm a local USGBC Chapter member. I'm a LEED AP BD +C. I belong to the ASPE (American Society of Professional Estimators). I'm a CPE (Certified Professional Estimator). I belong to RECA, Austin Young Chamber of Commerce, Austin Chamber of Commerce, Austin BIM Group, AGC and ABC.

- j. Are you a Chapter Member in good standing and employed in the membership category you listed?

Yes

- k. Are you aware of any extenuating circumstances which might prevent your attendance at the six face-to-face Board meetings (2 each on the second Monday afternoon of the relevant months - San Marcos [January, July]; Austin [March, September], and San Antonio [May, November], and one Conference Call (second Monday in February)? If so, please indicate what they are.

No. None.

- l. The Board's Conflict of Interest policy is summarized in the Board of Directors Fact Sheet. As the full statement indicates, conflicts are not inherently improper but Directors must be conscious of such conflicts and act with candor and care in dealing with such situations. Will you abide by the Chapter's conflict policy and can you do so without significantly affecting your Board responsibilities?

Yes.