



PEOPLE + PLANET

APPLYING NABERS INDOOR ENVIRONMENT AND THE WELL BUILDING STANDARD™

Strategies for interiors, new buildings and existing buildings seeking dual certification



Introduction

About IWBI and our mission

The International WELL Building Institute™ (IWBI™) is leading the global movement to transform our buildings and communities in ways that help people thrive. IWBI's WELL Building Standard™ (WELL™) is focused exclusively on the ways that buildings and communities, and everything in them, can improve our comfort, drive better choices, and generally enhance, not compromise, our health and wellness. IWBI engages, convenes and mobilizes the global wellness community through management of the WELL AP™ credential, the development of educational resources, and advocacy for policies that promote health and wellness everywhere.

IWBI also supports the active and ongoing evolution of WELL to make sure the latest in both scientific health research and building science and practice are available to the broader WELL community. That desire to apply the latest research and permit the continuous development of WELL were key factors that led to the launch of the WELL v2™ pilot, the next version of the WELL Building Standard™.

Advancing human health through better performing buildings

NABERS Indoor Environment (IE) and the WELL Building Standard are performance-based certification tools that measure components of the indoor environment. While NABERS IE and WELL both measure operational performance, WELL also addresses building design and organisational policies.

NABERS IE rates the performance of tenancies, base buildings and whole buildings using objective measurements of thermal services, acoustic comfort, indoor air quality, lighting and office layout. The results are communicated using a 1–6 star scale to benchmark the building's or tenancy's performance against the market—where one star is poor performance, three is average and six is market leading. NABERS IE results are valid for one year.

WELLv2 pilot rates building and tenancy performance from bronze to platinum status. After a project meets all mandatory WELL preconditions, higher certification levels can be earned by accruing optional optimisation features. WELL certification is valid for three years, during which projects must maintain good standing by adhering to annual monitoring requirements. To maintain WELL Certification after the three-year period, projects must meet requirements for recertification. Projects are only eligible for recertification if all applicable ongoing monitoring and annual submission requirements have been met as described in WELL feature language. Green Business Certification Inc. (GBCI), the third party verifier for WELL certification projects also evaluates projects at the recertification stage, adjusting certification status depending on whether projects have been fulfilling their monitoring, progress and submission requirements.

NABERS IE and the WELL rating systems share many common processes to achieve certification. Both ratings require third-party testing by those who have been accredited and trained in the rating system's particular performance testing process. In the case of WELL, they are known as WELL Performance Testing Agents. NABERS IE and WELL have detailed testing protocols, including determining sampling locations, utilising proper equipment, and completing rigorous auditing procedures.

Given the alignment in rating systems, IWBI and NABERS have developed the following guidance to illustrate how NABERS IE can assist projects in meeting WELL v2 criteria. The following crosswalk document highlights where NABERS IE measurements or NABERS IE scores can be used to achieve a WELL v2 feature during initial WELL certification, annual monitoring and/or WELL recertification.

The following NABERS IE ratings systems are included in this document:

- NABERS IE Base Building
- NABERS IE Tenancy
- NABERS IE Whole Building

General guidance for WELL v2 pilot / NABERS Indoor Environment (IE) crosswalk tool implementation:

This document maps out the NABERS IE testing protocol, measurements and scores that may contribute to achieving certain WELL features.

IWBI has evaluated this mapping and has provided rulings for entire features or parts that are satisfied by NABERS IE scores or average measurement levels. To be eligible to use this tool, the project boundary of the NABERS IE project must fully encompass the project boundary of the project pursuing WELL certification.

The document outlines a level of fulfilment for NABERS IE data for the purposes of initial WELL certification, WELL annual monitoring and/or WELL recertification. A level of fulfilment is assigned as:

- E (Equivalent) - When the level of fulfilment is considered equivalent, it indicates that a NABERS IE score or measurement is deemed satisfactory to achieve the complete WELL feature indicated. The NABERS IE Rating Report can be used as verification to achieve the equivalent WELL feature.
- P (Partial) - When the level of fulfilment is considered partial, it indicates that NABERS IE assessment will contribute to some, but not all of WELL feature criteria. This may mean that the NABERS IE assessment is a good stepping stone for meeting the requirements but more work will be needed to confirm achievement of a WELL feature. For instance, a project may be required to conduct on-site performance testing for additional parameters in order to achieve a specific WELL feature.

Where a project has achieved or is pursuing NABERS IE and seeks to apply these efforts to achieve a WELL feature, the project should submit the following:

- During WELL documentation review, submit a short narrative identifying how NABERS IE is being used to meet WELL features, in line with the guidance provided in this document.
- Submit supporting evidence for each WELL feature part utilising NABERS IE equivalency:
 - Proof of awarded NABERS IE scores and values (average measurement levels) should be submitted in the form of a NABERS Indoor Environment Rating Report (PDF). If applicable, proof of testing methodology should also be provided.
 - If a project is conducting NABERS IE and WELL performance testing in parallel, the project may indicate that the NABERS IE measurements and/or final proof of award will be submitted alongside WELL performance review. In this case the feature will stay as pending until the proof of award is submitted. Note: if specified in the crosswalk for select criteria, projects may utilise NABERS IE protocols for sampling location, duration and quantity.
- For WELL recertification, projects should submit the three NABERS IE Rating Reports, from the previous three years, to be reviewed in aggregate for compliance. These three reports should represent the period from initial WELL certification through WELL recertification.

WELL Core (v2 pilot) / NABERS IE Base Building crosswalk:

WELL feature part name	NABERS IE Verification	WELL Certification		WELL Annual Monitoring and/or Recertification		Alignment Notes
A01.1	PM ₁₀ value or score	P	The NABERS PM ₁₀ average value can be submitted for WELL Performance Review. Projects still need to obtain and submit PM _{2.5} data for WELL, but measurements for both PM _{2.5} & PM ₁₀ may be collected at locations, of duration, and of a quantity required by NABERS for PM ₁₀ .	E	Recertification: Projects that achieve a Particulate Matter (PM ₁₀) score of 40% or higher in NABERS automatically achieve this Feature Part. If the NABERS PM ₁₀ score is below 40%, both PM ₁₀ and PM _{2.5} measurements would be required for Recertification, but NABERS IE PM ₁₀ values could contribute.	NABERS and WELL measure PM ₁₀ as part of the rating system, but WELL also requires PM _{2.5} .
A01.3	CO value or score	P	The NABERS carbon monoxide (CO) average value can be submitted for WELL Performance Review. Projects still need to obtain and submit ozone data for WELL, but the measurements for both ozone & carbon monoxide may be collected at locations, of duration, and of a quantity required by NABERS for carbon monoxide.	E	Recertification: Projects that achieve a carbon monoxide (CO) score of 10% or higher in NABERS automatically achieve this Feature Part.	NABERS measures carbon monoxide as part of the rating system. WELL requires both carbon monoxide and ozone.
A01.5	Proof of Award	E	Projects that have a valid NABERS IE Base Building Rating can submit the NABERS IE Rating Report to meet the requirements of this Feature.	E	Annual Monitoring: Projects that have a valid NABERS IE Base Building Rating can submit the NABERS IE Rating Report annually.	
A05.1	PM ₁₀ value	P	The NABERS PM ₁₀ average value can be submitted for WELL Performance Review. Projects still need to obtain and submit PM _{2.5} data for WELL, but measurements for both PM _{2.5} & PM ₁₀ may be collected at locations, of duration, and of a quantity required by NABERS for PM ₁₀ .	P	Recertification: The NABERS PM ₁₀ values can be used as inputs for WELL Performance Review. Projects still need to obtain and submit PM _{2.5} data for WELL, but measurements for both PM _{2.5} & PM ₁₀ may be collected at locations, of duration, and of a quantity required by NABERS for PM ₁₀ .	NABERS and WELL measure PM ₁₀ as part of the rating system, but WELL also requires PM _{2.5} .
A05.3	CO value or score	P	The NABERS carbon monoxide (CO) average value can be submitted for WELL Performance Review. Projects still need to obtain and submit ozone and nitrogen dioxide data for WELL, but the measurements may be collected at locations, of duration, and of a quantity required by NABERS for carbon monoxide.	P	Recertification: Projects that achieve a carbon monoxide (CO) score of 10% or higher in NABERS automatically comply with the requirements for CO in A05.3. For NABERS scores under this value, the carbon monoxide values can be used as inputs for WELL Performance Review. However, measurements would still need to be taken for ozone and nitrogen dioxide to achieve the optimisation.	NABERS and WELL measure carbon monoxide as part of the rating system, but WELL also requires ozone and nitrogen dioxide for this feature part.

S02.1	Acoustic Comfort score	E	Projects that achieve a NABERS Acoustic Comfort score of 50% or higher automatically achieve ONE POINT from this Feature.	E	Recertification: Projects that achieve a NABERS Acoustic Comfort score of 50% or higher automatically achieve ONE POINT from this Feature.	Although both NABERS and WELL require acoustic measurements, the method of measurement varies significantly. Therefore, the WELL points have been capped for projects using the crosswalk.
T01.1	Thermal Services Spot Measurement score	E	Projects that achieve a NABERS Thermal Services Spot Measurements score of 80% automatically achieve this Feature Part. For NABERS scores under this value, the raw thermal comfort measurements can be used as inputs for WELL Performance Review. This includes space temperature, mean radiant temperature and relative humidity.	E	Recertification: Projects that achieve a NABERS Thermal Services Spot Measurements score of 80% automatically achieve this Feature Part. For NABERS scores under this value, the raw thermal comfort measurements can be used as inputs for WELL Performance Review. This includes space temperature, mean radiant temperature and relative humidity.	
T01.2	Proof of Award	E	Projects that have a valid NABERS IE Base Building Rating can submit the NABERS IE Rating Report to meet the requirements of this Feature.	E	Annual Monitoring: Projects that have a valid NABERS IE Base Building Rating can submit the NABERS IE Rating Report annually.	
T02.1	Thermal Services score	E	Projects that achieve a NABERS Thermal Services score (Spot Measurements + Annual Monitoring) of 90% automatically achieve this Feature Part. For NABERS scores under this value, the raw thermal comfort measurements can be used as inputs for WELL Performance Review. This includes space temperature, mean radiant temperature and relative humidity.	E	Recertification: Projects that achieve a NABERS Thermal Services score of 90% (Spot Measurements + Annual Monitoring) automatically achieve this Feature Part. For NABERS scores under this value, the raw thermal comfort measurements can be used as inputs for WELL Performance Review. This includes space temperature, mean radiant temperature and relative humidity.	

WELL Certification (v2 pilot) / NABERS IE Tenancy crosswalk:

WELL feature part	NABERS IE Verification	WELL Certification		WELL Annual Monitoring and/or Recertification		Alignment Notes
A01.1	PM ₁₀ value or score	P	The NABERS PM ₁₀ average value can be submitted for WELL Performance Review. Projects still need to obtain and submit PM _{2.5} data for WELL, but measurements for both PM _{2.5} & PM ₁₀ may be collected at locations, of duration, and of a quantity required by NABERS for PM ₁₀ .	E	Recertification: Projects that achieve a Particulate Matter (PM ₁₀) score of 40% or higher in NABERS automatically achieve this Feature Part. If the NABERS PM ₁₀ score is below 40%, both PM ₁₀ and PM _{2.5} measurements would be required for Recertification, but NABERS IE PM ₁₀ values could contribute.	NABERS and WELL measure PM ₁₀ as part of the rating system, but WELL also requires PM _{2.5} .
A01.2	Formaldehyde value or score	P	The NABERS Formaldehyde average value can be submitted for WELL Performance Review only if the absorption tube method was used. Projects still need to obtain and submit individual component VOCs for WELL compliance, but the measurements may be collected at locations and of a quantity required by NABERS for VOCs.	E	Recertification: Projects that achieve a NABERS TVOC score of 80% or higher and a Formaldehyde score of 70% or higher in NABERS automatically achieve this Feature Part. Projects may utilise any NABERS testing method for the purposes of annual monitoring, but the absorption tube method should be used if testing VOCs at recertification.	NABERS allows two methods for the measurement of VOCs and formaldehyde, including handheld devices. WELL will only accept the absorption tube and lab analysis.
A01.5	Proof of Award	E	Projects that have a valid NABERS IE Tenancy Rating can submit the NABERS IE Rating Report to meet the requirements of this Feature.	E	Annual Monitoring: Projects that have a valid NABERS IE Tenancy Rating can submit the NABERS IE Rating Report annually.	
A05.1	PM ₁₀ value	P	The NABERS PM ₁₀ average value can be submitted for WELL Performance Review. Projects still need to obtain and submit PM _{2.5} data for WELL, but measurements for both PM _{2.5} & PM ₁₀ may be collected at locations, of duration, and of a quantity required by NABERS for PM ₁₀ .	P	Recertification: The NABERS PM ₁₀ values can be used as inputs for WELL Performance Review. Projects still need to obtain and submit PM _{2.5} data for WELL, but measurements for both PM _{2.5} & PM ₁₀ may be collected at locations, of duration, and of a quantity required by NABERS for PM ₁₀ .	NABERS and WELL measure PM ₁₀ as part of the rating system, but WELL also requires PM _{2.5} .
A05.2	Formaldehyde value	P	The NABERS formaldehyde average value can be submitted for WELL Performance Review only if the absorption tube method was used. Projects still need to obtain and submit benzene data for WELL compliance, but the measurements for both benzene and formaldehyde may be collected at locations and of a quantity required by NABERS for formaldehyde.	P	Recertification: The NABERS formaldehyde values can be used as inputs for WELL Performance Review only if the absorption tube method was used. Projects still need to obtain and submit benzene data for WELL, but the measurements for both benzene and formaldehyde may be collected at locations and of a quantity required by NABERS for formaldehyde.	NABERS allows two methods for the measurement of VOCs and formaldehyde, including handheld devices. WELL will only accept the absorption tube and lab analysis. NABERS measures TVOCs, but this WELL

						part requires benzene specifically.
S02.1	Acoustic Comfort score	E	Projects that achieve a NABERS Acoustic Comfort score of 50% or higher automatically achieve ONE POINT from this Feature.	E	Recertification: Projects that achieve a NABERS Acoustic Comfort score 50% or higher automatically achieve ONE POINT from this Feature.	Although both NABERS and WELL require acoustic measurements, the method of measurement varies significantly. Therefore, the WELL points have been capped for projects using the crosswalk.
C03.1 & C03.2	Occupant Satisfaction Survey	E	Projects are still required to submit occupant satisfaction survey results to IWBI on an annual basis.	E	Annual Monitoring: Projects are still required to submit occupant satisfaction survey results to IWBI on an annual basis.	

Light: While both NABERS IE and WELL v2 pilot require measurement of illuminance, the methodology, frequency of measurements, and space types required for assessment were deemed to be too different for the purposes of recognising full or partial equivalency.

WELL Certification (v2 pilot) / NABERS IE Whole Building crosswalk:

WELL feature part name	NABERS IE Verification	WELL Certification		WELL Annual Monitoring and/or Recertification		Alignment Notes
A01.1	PM ₁₀ value or score	P	The NABERS PM ₁₀ average value can be submitted for WELL Performance Review. Projects still need to obtain and submit PM _{2.5} data for WELL, but measurements for both PM _{2.5} & PM ₁₀ may be collected at locations, of duration, and of a quantity required by NABERS for PM ₁₀ .	E	Recertification: Projects that achieve a Particulate Matter (PM ₁₀) score of 40% or higher in NABERS automatically achieve this Feature Part. If the NABERS PM ₁₀ score is below 40%, both PM ₁₀ and PM _{2.5} measurements would be required for Recertification, but NABERS IE PM ₁₀ values could contribute.	NABERS and WELL measure PM ₁₀ as part of the rating system, but WELL also requires PM _{2.5} .
A01.2	Formaldehyde value or score	P	The NABERS Formaldehyde average value can be submitted for WELL Performance Review only if the absorption tube method was used. Projects still need to obtain and submit individual component VOCs for WELL compliance, but the measurements may be collected at locations and of a quantity required by NABERS for VOCs.	E	Recertification: Projects that achieve a NABERS TVOC score of 80% or higher and a Formaldehyde score of 70% or higher in NABERS automatically achieve this Feature Part. Projects may utilise any NABERS testing method for the purposes of annual monitoring, but the absorption tube method should be used if testing VOCs at recertification.	NABERS allows two methods for the measurement of VOCs and formaldehyde, including handheld devices. WELL will only accept the absorption tube and lab analysis.
A01.3	CO value or score	P	The NABERS carbon monoxide (CO) average value can be submitted for WELL Performance Review. Projects still need to obtain and submit ozone data for WELL, but the measurements for both ozone & carbon monoxide may be collected at locations, of duration, and of a quantity required by NABERS for carbon monoxide.	E	Recertification: Projects that achieve a carbon monoxide (CO) score of 10% or higher in NABERS automatically achieve this Feature Part.	NABERS measures carbon monoxide as part of the rating system. WELL requires both carbon monoxide and ozone.
A01.5	Proof of Award	E	Projects that have a valid NABERS IE Whole Building Rating can submit the NABERS IE Rating Report to meet the requirements of this Feature.	E	Annual Monitoring: Projects that have a valid NABERS IE Whole Building Rating can submit the NABERS IE Rating Report annually.	
A05.1	PM ₁₀ value	P	The NABERS PM ₁₀ average value can be submitted for WELL Performance Review. Projects still need to obtain and submit PM _{2.5} data for WELL, but measurements for both PM _{2.5} & PM ₁₀ may be collected at locations, of duration, and of a quantity required by NABERS for PM ₁₀ .	P	Recertification: The NABERS PM ₁₀ average value can be submitted for WELL Performance Review. Projects still need to obtain and submit PM _{2.5} data for WELL, but measurements for both PM _{2.5} & PM ₁₀ may be collected at locations, of duration, and of a quantity required by NABERS for PM ₁₀ .	NABERS and WELL measure PM ₁₀ as part of the rating system, but WELL also requires PM _{2.5} .
A05.2	Formaldehyde value	P	The NABERS formaldehyde average value can be submitted for WELL Performance Review only if the absorption tube method was used. Projects still	P	Recertification: The NABERS formaldehyde values can be used as inputs for WELL Performance Review only if the absorption tube method was used.	NABERS allows two methods for the measurement of VOCs

			need to obtain and submit benzene data for WELL compliance, but the measurements for both benzene and formaldehyde may be collected at locations and of a quantity required by NABERS for formaldehyde.		Projects still need to obtain and submit benzene data for WELL, but the measurements for both benzene and formaldehyde may be collected at locations and of a quantity required by NABERS for formaldehyde.	and formaldehyde, including handheld devices. WELL will only accept the absorption tube and lab analysis. NABERS measures TVOCs, but this WELL part requires benzene specifically.
A05.3	CO value or score	P	The NABERS carbon monoxide average value can be submitted for WELL Performance Review. Projects still need to obtain and submit ozone and nitrogen dioxide data for WELL, but the measurements may be collected at locations, of duration, and of a quantity required by NABERS for carbon monoxide.	P	Recertification: Projects that achieve a Carbon Monoxide (CO) score of 10% or higher in NABERS automatically comply with the requirements for CO in A05.3. For NABERS scores under this value, the carbon monoxide values can be used as inputs for WELL Performance Review. However, measurements would still need to be taken for ozone and nitrogen dioxide to achieve the optimisation.	NABERS and WELL measure carbon monoxide as part of the rating system, but WELL also requires ozone and nitrogen dioxide for this feature part.
S02.1	Acoustic Comfort score	E	Projects that achieve a NABERS Acoustic Comfort score of 50% or higher automatically achieve ONE POINT from this Feature.	E	Recertification: Projects that achieve a NABERS Acoustic Comfort score of 50% or higher automatically achieve ONE POINT from this Feature.	Although both NABERS and WELL require acoustic measurements, the method of measurement varies significantly. Therefore, the WELL points have been capped for projects using the crosswalk.
T01.1	Thermal Services Spot Measurement score	E	Projects that achieve a NABERS Thermal Services Spot Measurements score of 80% automatically achieve this Feature Part. For NABERS scores under this value, the raw thermal comfort measurements can be used as inputs for WELL Performance Review. This includes space temperature, mean radiant temperature and relative humidity.	E	Recertification: Projects that achieve a NABERS Thermal Services Spot Measurements score of 80% automatically achieve this Feature Part. For NABERS scores under this value, the raw thermal comfort measurements can be used as inputs for WELL Performance Review. This includes space temperature, mean radiant temperature and relative humidity.	
T01.2	Proof of Award	E	Projects that have a valid NABERS IE Whole Building Rating can submit the NABERS IE Rating Report to meet the requirements of this Feature.	E	Annual Monitoring: Projects that have a valid NABERS IE Whole Building Rating can submit the NABERS IE Rating Report annually.	

T02.1	Thermal Services score	E	Projects that achieve a NABERS Thermal Services score (Spot Measurements + Annual Monitoring) of 90% automatically achieve this Feature Part. For NABERS scores under this value, the raw thermal comfort measurements can be used as inputs for WELL Performance Review. This includes space temperature, mean radiant temperature and relative humidity.	E	Recertification: Projects that achieve a NABERS Thermal Services score (Spot Measurements + Annual Monitoring) of 90% automatically achieve this Feature Part. For NABERS scores under this value, the raw thermal comfort measurements can be used as inputs for WELL Performance Review. This includes space temperature, mean radiant temperature and relative humidity.
C03.1 & C03.2	Occupant Satisfaction Survey	E	Projects are still required to submit occupant satisfaction survey results to IWBI on an annual basis.	E	Annual Monitoring: Projects are still required to submit occupant satisfaction survey results to IWBI on an annual basis.

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