LEED certification is based on a point system, with each of the first three levels requiring 10 additional points to achieve the next level. An extra 20 points is required, however, to make the leap from Gold to Platinum, the highest certification possible.

CEI’s building received all of the available points for energy use, due to the efficiency of its lighting, heating, cooling and mechanical systems, as well as insulation. The solar array of photovoltaic panels, installed on the building’s roof, produces a significant amount of electricity used in the building.

CEI’s headquarters was the sixth LEED Platinum certified commercial building in Maine.
“CEI made it clear that delivering a new headquarters building which boldly demonstrated a sustainable path forward for Maine - and the world- would be a central pillar of their move.”

- Benedict B. Walter
CWS Architects, President

Community Access and Innovation
The building supports teleconference technology by welcoming community groups in the region and elsewhere to make use of facilities for webinars, conferences and meetings. There is opportunity to install a charging station for electric vehicles.

Thermal Envelope
78 high-quality, high performance fiberglass, foam filled, clad windows plus glass curtain-wall features in conference areas. Foam and rigid insulation: R35 walls, R-55 cap. A reflective, white roof minimizes the urban heat island effect and reduces cooling load in summer months.

Mechanical Systems
Ground source heat pumps heat and cool the building with no emissions to the atmosphere. The 61.5Kw solar array of photovoltaic panels produce significant amounts of electricity used in the building. Top quality ventilation system ensures a healthy workplace. 11 zones for maximum flexibility to manage individual comfort.

In 2019, CEI Central generated 66,898 kWh of electricity via the solar panel grid on its roof.

The total building electrical usage was 331,538 kWh generated by onsite solar and provided by Central Maine Power.

~20% of the electricity used was generated by the solar panels.

3,840 kWh was put back onto the grid during periods when the electricity supply exceeded the demand.