

Contest Asks State What About Blue is Green?

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LEXINGTON, Ky. (Feb. 6, 2008) – As one of only 20 university-led teams worldwide competing in the [United States Department of Energy 2009 Solar Decathlon](http://news.uky.edu/news/) competition, the University of Kentucky's Blues Team will design, fabricate, construct, and test a solar-powered house.

In preparation for the design phase, the UK Blues Team will launch an "Open Ideas Competition: What about Blue is Green?" at noon Thursday, Feb. 7, at the Center Theater in the UK Student Center. This component will solicit innovative design concepts from the university community and the state at large. Kentuckians will be asked to suggest resources unique to the Commonwealth that can best help the state utilize solar power for green and sustainable solutions.

A biennial event, the Solar Decathlon brings together 20 university teams in a competition to design, build and operate the most attractive and energy-efficient solar-powered house. Over the next 18 months, UK's team will develop its Simple, Modular, Affordable, Renewable, Transportable, Building, combining Living, Understanding, Energy-efficiency and Sustainability or SMART BLUES House. UK's final design will ultimately be designed, fabricated, constructed, and tested in preparation for evaluation and public display at the Solar Decathlon's solar village presented in early fall of 2009 on the National Mall, in Washington, D.C.

For more information on the "Open Ideas Competition" and the UK SMART BLUES House Project, refer to the [team Web site](http://news.uky.edu/news/) [http://news.uky.edu/news/].