

# Green Building Update

an Allen Matkins  
market intelligence  
publication

**Allen Matkins**  
attorneys at law

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## [Stanford invention pushes solar efficiency above 60%](#)

*Energy Boom - Aug 6*

Stanford University successfully tested a solar conversion process with efficiencies above 60% and potentially cheap enough to compete with oil. "Photon enhanced thermionic emission" or PETE, combines a photovoltaic-like process with solar thermal energy in a hot [semiconductor cathode](#). Each PETE device uses a six-inch wafer, so material costs are low compared to large solar panels made of silicon.

### GREEN BUILDING FOCUS

## [Ten simple ways to green your office](#)

*The Daily Green - Aug 8*

The Daily Green's ten simple ways to make your office more sustainable: (1) map the office's Green Footprint; (2) save trees; (3) power down; (4) minimize e-waste; (5) telecommute; (6) "green screen" suppliers; (7) use green cleaning services; (8) eco-renoate; (9) drink tap water; and (10) form a committee to organize and monitor your office's green practices.

## [Legislator's toolkit for greening schools](#)

*USGBC - Jul 29*

"Greening Our Schools: A State Legislator's Guide to Best Policy Practices" was developed by the USGBC and launched at the National Conference of State Legislatures. The toolkit guides lawmakers to improve the health, productivity, efficiency, and fiscal responsibility of schools. For more click [here](#).

## [EPA's toolkit for less red tape on green projects](#)

*EPA - Aug 9*

The EPA's Sustainable Design and Green Building Toolkit for Local Governments assesses codes and ordinances as they relate to green building methods and helps remove barriers to sustainable design.

## [West Sacramento to adopt CalGreen early](#)

*Sacramento Business Journal - Aug 6*

Passed in 2010 and effective January 1, 2011, California adopted CalGreen, the first state-wide building code. However, West Sacramento plans to adopt CalGreen earlier than January 1, 2011. CalGreen requires stricter energy and water efficiency standards for commercial and residential construction. Also, West Sacramento plans to make some voluntary sections of CalGreen mandatory, including boosting energy efficiency by 15%. CalGreen includes requirements for green plumbing; low VOC materials; and 50% recycling of construction waste.

## [Fannie, Freddie and lenders continue blocking PACE](#)

*BuildingGreen - Aug 1*

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Allen Matkins is a full-service law firm with over 230 attorneys practicing in seven offices throughout California. Some of the areas of focus at Allen Matkins include green and sustainable construction, construction, corporate, real estate, project finance, business litigation, taxation, land use, environmental, bankruptcy, creditors' rights, intellectual property and employment and labor law. [More...](#)

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PACE (property assessed clean energy) provides bond financing for green residential or commercial improvements that are paid back over time from utility bill savings. PACE financing is secured by property tax liens. Now, lenders, whose loans are backed by Fannie Mae or Freddie Mac, are objecting that PACE tax liens increase their liability since property tax assessments must be paid by the lender during foreclosure. In California, where PACE financing was invented and then adopted by over 22 states, Attorney General Jerry Brown sued Fannie and Freddie to remove their objections to PACE. With PACE stalled, California stands to lose \$100 M in federal stimulus money and thousands of green jobs.

### [New green certification for companies](#)

*GreenBiz - Aug 2*

"ULE 880" is a points-based standard for certifying green business practices and features three levels. ULE 880, unveiled by UL Environment and Greener World Media, is now subject to a 45-day public comment period. The 102 indicators aim to rate the sustainability of an entire business, focusing on the full spectrum of sustainability rather than just environmental concerns. Click [here](#) to comment.

### [FutureBuildLA 2010 Conference, Oct. 19](#)

*ULI*

FutureBuild LA brings together experts, service professionals, vendors, and customers in the sustainable real estate sector in Los Angeles.

## **GREEN BUILDING PROJECTS**

### [California's Butte College plans solar expansion](#)

*Butte College - Aug 4*

Butte College in Oroville, Calif., will be the first college in the U.S. that is grid-positive, producing more energy from renewable on-site solar power than it uses. The project will add 15,000 photovoltaic panels producing 2.7 MW to its current 10,000 solar panels producing 1.85 MW.

### [Chevron's solar project in Brea, California](#)

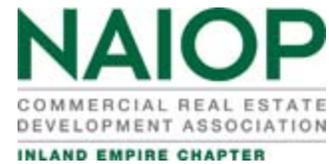
*Pollution Online - Aug 3*

Chevron and the City of Brea, California, announced construction of an energy savings and solar project expected to net the city more than \$13 million in energy savings over the life of the project. Chevron designed the solar systems and will build, install, operate, maintain, measure and guarantee the systems' performance. Chevron will implement a citywide street-lighting upgrade, interior lighting retrofits and improvements to heating, ventilating, air conditioning and energy management controls.

### [The greenest colleges in U.S.](#)

*GreenBiz - Aug 3*

Eighteen U.S. universities made The Princeton Review's 2011 Green Rating Honor Roll for the most sustainable practices, policies and course among all campuses. The list includes: Arizona State University, Tempe; College of the Atlantic, Bar Harbor, Maine; The Evergreen State College, Olympia, Wash.; Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta; Harvard College, Cambridge, Mass.; Northeastern University, Boston, Mass.; Northland College, Ashland, Wisc.; State University of New York - Binghamton University; Unity College, Unity,



Maine; University of California, Berkeley; University of California, Santa Barbara; University of California, Santa Cruz; University of Georgia, Athens; University of Maine, Orono; University of Maryland, College Park; Warren Wilson College, Asheville, NC; West Virginia University, Morgantown; Yale University, New Haven, Conn.

## [EPA's 50 green power partners](#)

*EPA - Aug 9*

The EPA named 50 green power partners who use the most renewable electricity. The top 10 on the list are Intel Corporation, Kohl's Department Stores, Whole Foods Market, City of Houston, Dell Inc., Johnson & Johnson, Cisco Systems, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, U.S. Air Force, and the City of Dallas.

## [LEED certified prisons](#)

*Mother Nature Network - Aug 5*

HOK Atlanta is designing prisons with lower water and energy usage, saving taxpayer dollars and reducing the building's carbon footprint. Nationwide, design firms are snapping up contracts to green prisons.

### **Related:**

[Washington State Department of Corrections earn LEED Gold](#)

## [Hines' Seattle office earns LEED-EB Gold](#)

*Hines - Aug 3*

The Seattle office of Hines, the international real estate firm, announced that Bank of America Fifth Avenue Plaza earned LEED-EB Gold and features low-flow fixtures and whole building water metering; building commissioning; low mercury content lamps; recycling and green cleaning programs; workstation lighting controls; and Hines' GREEN OFFICE for Tenants program, designed to enhance tenant space.

## [Autodesk's award-winning headquarters](#)

*Mother Nature Network - Aug 5*

Autodesk's East Coast headquarters in Waltham, Mass., earned LEED Core & Shell Gold and LEED for Commercial Interiors Platinum. The HQ received 13 industry awards and features a café with local and organic food, natural light, and lighting occupancy sensors.

## [Aurora opens Wisconsin's first LEED hospital](#)

*Health Leaders Media - Aug 4*

Aurora Health Care will open Wisconsin's first LEED certified hospital in Grafton on Nov. 1, 2010. The 106-bed, 520,000-square-foot hospital will cost \$184 million, and will provide integrated care for thousands of residents in Ozaukee County.

## [University of Louisville center earns LEED Gold](#)

*Mother Nature Network - Jul 30*

The Duthie Center, on the University of Louisville campus, is over 60 years old but earned LEED Gold certification. The energy efficiency retrofit was able to reuse 95% of the 1947's original structure.

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