

Green Building Update

an Allen Matkins
market intelligence
publication

Allen Matkins
attorneys at law

May 28, 2008

San Francisco Bay area passes carbon tax

Los Angeles Times - May 21

The [Bay Area Air Quality Management District](#)'s board voted 15-1 to charge businesses 4.4 cents per ton of carbon dioxide they emit. First of its kind in the U.S., the carbon tax will be effective July 1st and apply to nine counties in the San Francisco Bay Area. At 4.4 cents per ton of carbon dioxide emissions, the tax is expected neither to generate a windfall of cash for local government nor induce much change in polluting industries. Power plants, refineries and other big smokestack polluters would be hit the hardest, whereas most of the 2,500 newly regulated businesses would pay less than \$1 a year. The tax is expected to raise \$1.1 million in the area, which will be used to study the region's pollution sources and develop ways to reduce emissions.

Green Building Focus

Kraft Foods and ProLogis announce world's largest LEED-CI gold certified distribution center

Kraft Foods and ProLogis announced the completion of an [LEED-CI](#) certified distribution facility, which is now the largest facility of its kind in the world. The 800,000-square-foot building near Chicago developed by ProLogis has been recognized for advanced environmental design by the USGBC.

San Francisco's proposed green building code could cost up to \$700 million a year

SF Gate - May 23

San Francisco's pending tough, environmentally friendly building codes could decrease the city's economic output by as much as \$30 million to \$700 million a year, according the city's Office of Economic Analysis. The city's proposed codes would require new commercial and high-rise residential buildings to use clean energy and sustainable building materials. If passed, the codes would be the most stringent of any major U.S. city. It is estimated that by 2012 the codes would reduce 60,000 tons of carbon dioxide emissions, save 220,000 megawatt hours of power and spare 100 million gallons of drinking water. The city's green building codes are pending approval by the Board of Supervisors.

San Carlos City Council's budgetary constraints limit ambitious climate protection program

Mercury News - May 25

San Carlos California is encountering difficulty in implementing its comprehensive "climate protection program" due to budgetary constraints. The city can only afford to spend about \$15,000 per year on environmental initiatives when similar communities are "spending from \$200,000 to \$1 million in this area," according to council members. San Carlos made

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Los Angeles Business Council's 38th Annual Architectural Awards

Featuring the Allen Matkins Green Building Award and over 30 outstanding design awards

Keynote: **Jean Nouvel**,
Winner of the 2008 Pritzker
Architecture Prize

Special Guests: **Mayor Antonio R. Villaraigosa**,
Council President Eric Garcetti, **Councilmember Wendy Greuel**,
Councilmember Jan Perry,
Councilmember Ed Reyes,
Julius Shulman

Mistress of Ceremonies:
Frances Anderton, Host of
KCRW's DnA: Design and
Architecture

June 19, 2008
11:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.
Beverly Hilton
International Ballroom
[Register online](#)

About Allen Matkins

Allen Matkins Leck Gamble Mallory & Natsis LLP, founded in 1977, is a California law firm with over 240 attorneys practicing out of seven offices in California. The firm's broad based areas of focus include construction, corporate, real estate, project finance, business litigation, taxation, land use, environmental, bankruptcy and creditors' rights, and

headlines for eliminating its solar panel permit fees in 2007, but the city now plans to increase the fee to \$250 because it needs the money.

Developers in Las Cruces seek city council approval to build 187-acre "green" subdivision

Las Cruces Sun News - May 24

Developers in Las Cruces New Mexico are seeking city council approval for the development of a 187-acre "green" subdivision in the city. According to an application filed by the city, construction could begin immediately, and developers estimate it would take 20 years to complete. The development will allow for a maximum of 2,400 residential units and 2 million square feet of commercial space.

Craton Equity Partners finalize \$191.5 million greentech fund

Venture Beat - May 23

Craton Equity Partners has raised \$191.5 million to invest in small, undercapitalized companies with big growth prospects in the renewable energy, alternative fuels, green building, water remediation and solid waste reduction and conversion technologies. VentureBeat reports that Kohlberg Kravis Roberts, CFO John Gerson and actor Ed Begley, Jr. are among those involved in Craton. Despite concerns over a looming greentech bubble, investment in the green sector remains strong.

USGBC launches "LEED 2009" and awards more credits for energy and water conservation

Sustainable Industries - May 22

The USGBC launched [LEED 2009](#), revamped version of the LEED rating system, which aims to align USGBC's existing programs (LEED for New Construction, Existing Buildings, Core and Shell, Commercial Interiors and Schools) and reward building projects based on the level at which they address both energy, and water efficiency. LEED has long been criticized for not awarding enough credits for energy and water conservation. In the latest version, buildings can earn almost twice as many points for energy optimization and water efficiency as in the previous version of LEED.

Starbucks working with USGBC to develop LEED Retail program

GreenBiz - May 15

Starbucks plans that by 2010, all new construction will incorporate green building principles, and implement water conservation strategies in order to cut energy consumption by 25 percent. The company is working with the U.S. Green Building Council on both its LEED Retail program and a LEED Portfolio Pilot Program that could certify a building prototype, which would allow companies such as Starbucks to integrate LEED standards across an entire portfolio.

Singapore launches incentives to promote green building movement

Channel News Agency - May 22

The green building movement in Singapore has gained momentum and its Building and Construction Authority (BCA) hopes to spur it further through

its Green Mark Incentive Scheme. BCA's scheme includes a \$20 million fund, which has been set aside for green building projects. So far, \$2.6 million has been committed to 17 projects. There are over 100 green buildings in Singapore and BCA said another 200 are waiting to be certified.

Notable green building projects...

[Residential building receives first LEED approval in bureaucratic Lake Tahoe](#)

A Lake Tahoe developer has built the community's first [LEED](#) certified home. Building green houses might seem the norm in Lake Tahoe, but in reality, a lot of innovation and ambition have been killed by the number of rules developers must follow when building in an environmentally sensitive area. The 2,600-square-foot house is expected to achieve a LEED gold rating.

[Dunkin' Donuts' first LEED certified restaurant to serve as a prototype according to the company](#)

Dunkin' Donuts is building its first LEED certified restaurant in St. Petersburg, Florida. The building will serve as a prototype for the company according to Stephen J. Caldeira, chief global communications and public affairs officer for Dunkin' Brands, which operates Dunkin' Donuts. Dunkin' Donuts has more than 7,900 restaurants in 30 countries worldwide.

[Office Depot's store prototype earns LEED pre-certification](#)

The Office Depot's store prototype design earned volume pre-certification under a U.S. Green Building Council pilot program. The [LEED Portfolio Program](#) is designed to create a volume certification path to allow companies to incorporate LEED attributes into a prototype design before implementing across several buildings.

[Owens Corning pursuing LEED certification for its Oregon based foam insulation facility](#)

[Owens Corning](#), a glass fiber technology manufacturer with sales of \$5 billion, has announced that it is pursuing LEED certification for its Gresham, Oregon based foam insulation facility. The Gresham facility would join the company's Toledo, Ohio world headquarters in being LEED certified.

[Prindle Institute becomes Indiana's first LEED 'gold' certified facility](#)

Greencastle, Indiana's DePauw University's [Janet Prindle Institute for Ethics](#) has become the first in Indiana to earn a gold rating for energy efficiency and environmental design from the U.S. Green Building Council.

