

Green Building Update

an Allen Matkins
market intelligence
publication

Allen Matkins
attorneys at law

August 7, 2009

First state-wide green building code takes effect

newsreview.com - July 30

On August 1, 2009, the first of its kind state-wide green building code took effect for public buildings in California. In 2010, the green building code will apply on private projects. Local governments may adopt building codes in excess of the green building code. The green building code covers energy efficiency, water consumption, dual-plumbing systems for potable and recyclable water, diversion of construction waste from landfills, and use of environmentally sensitive materials in construction and design that do not contaminate indoor air quality (including eco-friendly flooring, carpeting, paint, coatings, thermal insulation and acoustical wall and ceiling panels). The green building code is not intended to be a substitute for any certification programs such as LEED.

Green Building Focus

[Report: building codes impeding green?](#)

Cascadia Region Green Building Council (CRGBC) - August 4

Most building codes and regulations may actually impede green building. The Cascadia Region Green Building Council report examines barriers to "living buildings."

[Report: green building could save \\$1.2 trillion](#)

McKinsey & Company - July 30

A 23% drop in energy use due to green buildings could save the U.S. economy \$1.2 trillion by 2020 and reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 1.1 gigatons annually. [Unlocking Energy Efficiency in the U.S. Economy](#) examines energy efficiency in buildings using existing technology.

[Canadian report: the green building debate](#)

CPRN - August 4

A Canadian report, *Green Building and Development as a Public Good*, argues that green construction faces a classic paradox: Canadians collectively agree that green improvements are needed but are caught in a whirlwind of information and a debate about how to move forward.

New LEED MPRs raise concerns

Architectural Record - July 29

Under LEED 2009, to prove compliance with several *minimum performance requirements* or "MPRs", building owners must disclose energy/water-usage, etc., for at least five years after certification. MPRs may require controversial sub-metering and disclosure of confidential information. LEED certification could be revoked if MPRs are not met.

The cost of green building

Sustainable Industries - July 27

Despite the common perception that green building costs more, if done correctly, building green can help reduce operating costs with little or no additional construction costs. Several cost-effective examples are discussed in the newly published book: *The Truth About Green Business*.

Student Summit examines energy efficiency

info Zine - July 30

At a five-day Youth Policy Summit on Energy Efficiency in California, college students from around the country will explore how the state might improve its energy efficiency in vehicles, buildings, and electricity generation to reduce greenhouse-gas emissions.

U.S. should learn from EU's green buildings

PR Web - July 29

The U.S. should examine Europe's innovative green building examples. The greenest new buildings on the planet are located in London, Frankfurt and Amsterdam. The new book, *Green Building Trends: Europe*, documents the latest sustainable EU technologies and ideas.

2010 Green Building Power Forum

GreenBuildingPower - July 28

An Announcement and Call for Papers came for the Second Annual Green Building Power Forum set for January 25-27 in Anaheim, California. The Forum will consider building green power projects.

Notable green building projects...

[Largest public Platinum project? CA Academy of Sciences](#)

Examiner.com - July 26

Founded in 1853, and after nearly 10 years and \$500 million dollars in the making, the California Academy of Sciences is the largest public Platinum-rated building in the world, and also the world's greenest museum. See www.calacademy.org.

[Foundation Capital awarded LEED Gold](#)

Business Wire - August 4

Foundation Capital's headquarters in California earned LEED Gold for Commercial Interiors. The project is reusing existing materials and incorporating innovative products.

[Surfrider Foundation earns LEED Gold](#)

SurfWire - August 3

The Surfrider Foundation's global headquarters earned LEED Gold. This is the first building in San Clemente and the second in Orange County, California, to earn this honor.

[Justin Timberlake -- first LEED Platinum golf course](#)

Earth911 - July 23

Justin Timberlake purchased the Mirimichi Golf Course, in Memphis, Tennessee. The course will become the first LEED Platinum golf course and receive Audubon International's Classic Sanctuary certification. The course will feature native landscaping, irrigation that maximizes the use of rainwater and electric golf carts powered by solar panels.

[First LEED Ice Arena at Bowdoin College](#)

Bowdoin - July 27

[Bowdoin College](#)'s new Sidney J. Watson Arena is the first newly constructed ice arena in the U.S. to earn LEED certification.

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[Bryan C. Jackson](#)
Editor

[Michael Kostecka](#)

Associate Editor



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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...](#)

Events

Our attorneys speak at many conferences and seminars on green building topics.

Bryan Jackson's list of recent speaking engagements can be found [here](#).

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Renewable Energy Update

Allen Matkins has a **NEW** free weekly publication, which is designed for readers who are trying to stay abreast of renewable energy news (including wind, solar, geothermal, biomass). [**SUBSCRIBE!**](#)

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