

# Green Building Update

an Allen Matkins  
market intelligence  
publication

**Allen Matkins**  
attorneys at law

September 19, 2011

## [Global green spending reaches \\$2.4T](#)

*Earth 911 - Sep 8*

International private-sector investment in green technologies and businesses exceeded \$2.4 trillion between 2007 and Q2 2011, according to the annual [Green Transitions Scorecard](#). The scorecard includes all money from nongovernment entities invested in green building, energy-saving technology, and other environmentally sustainable ventures. The green sector is anticipated to continue attracting as much as \$1 trillion per year until 2020.

### GREEN BUILDING FOCUS

## [CA law will expedite CEQA lawsuits for LEED projects](#)

*Bellingham Herald/Los Angeles Times - Sep 10*

Larger California construction projects are often challenged in court for alleged violations of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). CEQA litigation can drag on for years. If signed by the Governor, [AB 900](#) would shorten CEQA litigation to 175 days for \$100+ million LEED-certified projects. The changes would require CEQA litigation to start in the Appellate Court which is only subject to challenges in California's Supreme Court. However, AB 900 needs amending since LEED certification does not occur until after construction is completed, while CEQA litigation typically occurs before construction begins.

## [7th Annual Green Gala](#)

*Los Angeles, CA - Nov 3*

The LA Chapter of the USGBC will award its Sustainable Innovation Awards at the 7th Annual Green Gala on November 3, 2011, from 5:30 – 9:30pm at the LEED® Certified JW Marriott at L.A. Live. The Green Gala is seen as the largest annual event for networking among LA's green and sustainable community.

## [\\$22 million for green building manufacturer](#)

*Sustainable Business - Sep 9*

GE led a \$22 million investment round in Project Frog, a company that builds energy-efficient modular buildings as part of GE's [Ecomagination Challenge](#), where GE and its partners invested \$134 million in green companies.

## [USGBC lauds White House job creation plan](#)

*USGBC - Sep 9*

The USGBC praised the Obama administration's job-creation plan, saying the strategy will benefit the nation's ailing construction industry and provide cost savings through energy retrofits.

## [Diesel plays key role in green infrastructure plan](#)

*PR Newswire - Sep 8*

Clean diesel technology plays a key role in the green infrastructure plans of Obama's jobs creation plan.

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Editor

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### Upcoming Events

[US Green Building Chapter Los Angeles Chapter Annual Green Gala](#)

November 3, 2011  
Los Angeles, CA



## [Benefits of building LEED](#)

*Houston Chronicle - Sep 9*

Kevin Frankel, VP of custom green-home builder The Frankel Group, said "Green is about value. I think the LEED standards we build to now with foam insulation, dual-speed air conditioning, dual-flushing commodes," will be required by "code in 10 years." Frankel's goal is to make LEED features 2% of the cost of the homes they sell.

## [LEED feasible investment for industrial facilities?](#)

*RE Journals - Sep 6*

Susan Bergdoll believes the positive points for LEED industrial buildings include: financial benefits, tighter management and credibility. The negatives include higher construction costs, LEED processing costs, and minor improvements in sustainability. She is concerned that current economic conditions will not allow LEED-certified industrial properties to attract tenants.

## **GREEN BUILDING PROJECTS**

### [HealthCare REIT's headquarters earn LEED Platinum](#)

*HealthCare REIT - Sep 8*

The Ohio headquarters of HealthCare REIT earned LEED Platinum and utilizes the Green Arrow Energy Management Program. The building's green features include: (1) a 32% reduction in energy consumption; (2) a 40% reduction in water usage; (3) elimination of the use of potable water for irrigation; (4) diversion of 78% of construction waste from landfills; and (5) a PV solar array that provides 20% of the corporate campus' electricity.

### [Atlanta residential project earns LEED Gold](#)

*World Interior Design Network - Sep 12*

A 325-unit residential complex in Atlanta is the first apartment community in the Southeast to earn LEED Gold and features: (1) water-efficient landscaping that cuts waste by 51%; (2) low-flow plumbing that reduces overall water use by 22%; (3) energy-efficient air-conditioning that achieves cost savings of 14%; (4) no appliances, paints, or furnishings that contain VOCs; and (5) use of 85% reclaimed materials during construction.

### [Arkansas corporate office earns LEED Gold](#)

*USGBC - Sep 9*

Southwestern Energy's headquarters in Conway, Arkansas, earned LEED Gold and features: (1) capture and treatment of 90% of storm-water runoff; (2) sensor-controlled interior lighting; (3) low-flow plumbing fixtures resulting in 41.1% reduction in water usage; (4) improved thermal envelope, high efficiency glazing, reduced interior and exterior lighting power, occupancy sensors, and high efficiency HVAC systems result in a cost savings of 14%; and (5) diversion of 83% of the building's construction waste from landfill.

### [Renovated Oregon stadium earns LEED Silver](#)

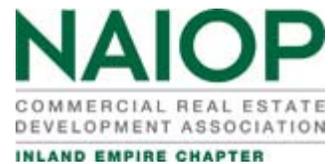
*World Interior Design Network - Sep 6*

The 85 year-old Jens-Weld Stadium in Portland, Oregon, earned LEED Silver following a renovation featuring: (1) low-flow plumbing fixtures; (2) energy-efficient lighting; (3) a food-waste composting program; (4) a recycling program; and (5) use of eco-friendly equipment and materials.

Allen Matkins is a full-service law firm with more than 220 attorneys practicing in seven offices throughout California. Some of the areas of focus at Allen Matkins include energy, green and sustainable construction, environmental, real estate, land use, construction, corporate, project finance, business litigation, taxation, bankruptcy, creditors' rights, intellectual property and employment and labor law. [More...](#)

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