

November 6, 2009

## **National Center for Healthy Housing -- green homes may improve health**

*Minnesota House of Representatives - October 29*

David Jacobs, director of research for the National Center for Healthy Housing, testified that green residential buildings, in addition to conserving energy, may improve the health of their occupants. Jacobs testified before joint panels of the Minnesota State House and Senate.

Related: [NCHH unveils healthy housing report](#)

[CDC's Healthy Housing Reference Manual](#)

## **Green Building Focus**

### **Report: Green retrofit market to hit \$15B by 2014**

*McGraw-Hill Construction - October 22*

McGraw-Hill Construction predicts the market for non-residential green building retrofits is set to soar and represents a better opportunity for designers and builders than new construction. The green retrofit market is projected to grow from \$2.1 billion to \$3.7 billion this year and to \$15.1 billion by 2014.

### **Report: 25 LEED buildings in Chicago**

*GreenBiz - October 28*

This report from the USGBC's Chicago Chapter looks at 25 LEED-certified buildings in the Chicago area and reports on energy and water efficiency, greenhouse gas emissions, occupant comfort, and other performance indicators.

Related: [Regional study of green buildings first of its kind](#) (Reuters)

### **CBRE Green Sheet**

*CBRE - October*

CB Richard Ellis found that the number of LEED certifications in the San Francisco Bay Area has fallen slightly over the last quarter but activity remains strong with the number of 2009 applications expected to surpass the 2008 figure of 237 LEED certified projects.

## **Salinas – Green Homes, Green Pool and Electric Car Co.**

*KSBW.com - October 28*

A panel of green building experts recently gathered in Salinas, California, to discuss a new green housing development and to tour the new green-certified community pool. Also, Salinas announced that an electric car company will be making its home in the City.

Related: [Sustainable Salinas talks green building](#) (The Californian)

## **Green building risks and liabilities**

*North Bay Business Journal - November 2*

The engineer, architect, contractor and builder can minimize risks by drafting carefully worded contracts. However, (1) government-mandated LEED standards in many jurisdictions, (2) the increased difficulty in achieving and maintaining LEED certification, and (3) the failure to meet green building performance standards may constitute major legal risks for future

## **Texas' \$150M in stimulus funds for green retrofits**

*San Antonio Business Journal - October 30*

Texas received more than \$150 million in Federal stimulus funds to invest in green retrofits to public buildings. Cities, counties, schools, hospital districts and other government entities are all eligible to apply for funds to be distributed through a revolving loan program funded by the American Reinvestment and Recovery Act.

## **Utility incentives but not green bldg. codes for Wyoming**

*Mother Nature Network - October 27*

While other states are instituting green building laws, the cowboy state is bucking the trend. Instead of mandating green building codes to improve energy efficiency, Wyoming plans to adjust utility company incentives.

## **LEED Pilot Credit Library**

*USGBC - November 2*

The LEED Pilot Credit Library is intended to facilitate the introduction of new LEED prerequisites and credits. The process will allow the USGBC to test and refine proposed credits through LEED 2009 project evaluations before the proposed credits are sent through the balloting process for introduction into LEED. For more information on the Pilot Credit Library please review the [Foundations of LEED](#).

## **Designer pinpoints trends in green building**

*Sustainable Industries - October 28*

Lucia Athens examines the key trends she expects to see in the future for green building, including more price signals and mandatory requirements, more focus on green retrofitting of existing buildings and more investment in water saving strategies.

### **Notable green building projects...**

#### **[Taipei 101 -- world's tallest green building](#)**

*Inhabitat - November 5*

Taipei 101, Taiwan's landmark skyscraper, may become the world's tallest green building. Building owners plan to invest \$1.8 million in hundreds of green building modifications.

#### **[EPA names top 20 green powered schools](#)**

*Sustainable Facility - October 27*

The EPA announced the 20 primary and secondary schools nationwide using the most power from renewable energy sources. The top five schools are as follows:

1. Austin Independent School District (Austin, Texas)
2. Round Rock Independent School District (Round Rock, Texas)
3. Rochester City School District (Rochester, N.Y.)
4. Bullis School (Potomac, Md.)
5. The Dalton School (New York, N.Y.)

#### **[First LEED Gold animal shelter](#)**

*Jetson Green - October 26*

America's first and only LEED Platinum home built with traditional log construction was built in Pentwater, Michigan. Among the home's green features are soy-based insulation, dual flush toilets, energy efficient lighting, concrete and bamboo flooring, recycled glass countertops, programmable thermostats, SIP panel construction, and a Logix ICF foundation.

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[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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**INLAND EMPIRE**

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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,

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