

# McDermott Will & Emery

## **LEGAL EASE**

### **LEGAL/REGULATORY DEVELOPMENTS AFFECTING THE "TRIPLE BOTTOM LINE"**

#### **FEDERAL**

##### **EPA Becomes First Federal Agency to be Powered by 100% Green Energy**

On August 31, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced that it had closed a deal that will make it the first federal agency to purchase renewable energy, or "green power," equivalent to 100 percent of its annual electricity needs. As of September 2006, EPA will purchase nearly 300 kilowatt hours of green power annually in the form of renewable energy certificates or delivered product. For more information, visit:

<http://yosemite.epa.gov/opa/admpress.nsf/7c02ca8c86062a0f85257018004118a6/2ff6d33f0f6e9a7d852571db0059fe22!OpenDocument>, and  
<http://www.epa.gov/greeningepa/greenpower.htm>

##### **Federal Judge Vacates President Bush's Pesticide Rules, Requires Consultation**

A federal judge has overturned new Bush administration rules that would have weakened the regulation of pesticides by allowing their use without consulting federal wildlife agencies. The court rejected the new rules as arbitrary and capricious and restored prior standards that required consultation with federal wildlife agencies before pesticides can be used. For more information, visit: [http://seattlepi.nwsourc.com/local/282556\\_pesticides25.html](http://seattlepi.nwsourc.com/local/282556_pesticides25.html).

#### **MARYLAND**

##### **Solar Support! MD Government Offering Solar Energy Grants for Businesses**

Considering environmentally-friendly, cost-reducing solar power for your business (or home)? If so, the state of Maryland is willing to help you get started. In July 2006, the government began offering grants to assist with initial costs of solar equipment. For more information, visit: <http://www.energy.state.md.us/programs/renewable/solargrant/> or <http://www.energy.state.md.us/press/2006-04-28.pdf>

##### **Slim Chances: Employers Reluctant to Hire Ex-Offenders & Disabled Persons**

Employment of ex-offenders not only helps individuals, but may also help the community. However, the number of ex-offenders in Maryland far outweighs the number of employers willing to hire them. For more information, visit:

[http://www.baltimoresun.com/news/local/bal-md.rodricks07sep07\\_0,7860997.column?coll=bal-home-columnists](http://www.baltimoresun.com/news/local/bal-md.rodricks07sep07_0,7860997.column?coll=bal-home-columnists)

Disabled persons face a similar hardship. In Maryland, unemployment rate is less than 4 percent for all, however the unemployment rate for disable persons is over 50 percent. On September 14, 2006, Suntrust Bank will host a summit to help employers explore and correct barriers with minimal expense or adversity. For more information, visit: [http://www.examiner.com/a-134097%7ESummit\\_aims\\_to\\_provide\\_employment\\_for\\_people\\_with\\_disabilities.html](http://www.examiner.com/a-134097%7ESummit_aims_to_provide_employment_for_people_with_disabilities.html)

## **VIRGINIA**

### **VSBN to Co-Sponsor Conference on "Greening" Virginia's Universities and Colleges**

On September 26, the Virginia Sustainable Building Network ("VSBN") will co-host a one-day conference on incorporating "green" building initiatives into Virginia's universities and colleges. The conference will be held at James Madison University in Harrisonburg. There is still time to register, and sponsorship opportunities are available. For more information, visit: <http://www.vsbnet.org/events.shtml> or [http://www.vsbnet.org/docs/20060926\\_VSBNabout.pdf](http://www.vsbnet.org/docs/20060926_VSBNabout.pdf)

## **DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**

### **D.C. Announces Household HazMat, E-cycling Event On October 28**

On August 30, the District Department of Public Works will hold a fall household hazardous waste electronics recycling drop-off Saturday, October 28, 2006 at D.C.'s newly-renovated Trash Transfer Station at 3200 Benning Road, NE. The service is free to all D.C. residents. For more information, visit: [http://www.dpw.dc.gov/dpw/cwp/view,a,1201,q,636926,dpwNav\\_GID,1479,.asp](http://www.dpw.dc.gov/dpw/cwp/view,a,1201,q,636926,dpwNav_GID,1479,.asp)