



ESG Advisory Group

Our multidisciplinary Environmental, Social & Governance (ESG) Advisory Group assists boards of directors and managers of companies in understanding the evolving ESG landscape, including the growing prominence of ESG investing, environmental impacts and stewardship, social risk and compliance, and governance. Our ESG group spans several Alston & Bird offices and practices, including structured finance, alternative investments, securities, corporate governance, environmental, real estate, and corporate trusts.

As investors increasingly incorporate ESG criteria into their investment assessments and valuation decisions, our ESG Advisory Group – part of Alston & Bird’s Corporate Social Responsibility & Sustainability Team – helps guide companies in implementing strong sustainability programs that serve as key indicators of reliable financial performance. The group also offers counsel to assist with demand from certain institutional investors and regulators for enhanced ESG disclosures, whether in the form of stand-alone corporate social responsibility reports or as part of a company’s regular quarterly and annual financial reports or proxy filings.

Our team includes former federal and state environmental agency general counsel, providing our clients with unique insights into government regulation and regulatory agencies. The collective skills of our lawyers and policy advisors in the ESG Advisory Group, who have decades of experience advising on issues related to the environment, litigation, green funds, securities, and board governance, give us a strong platform for advising clients on the challenges of and opportunities in corporate-related ESG commitments.

We capitalize on our extensive experience representing public companies in securities disclosure and corporate governance matters when developing and reporting on their social responsibility issues. We represent more than 100 SEC registrants in securities matters generally, providing them with the most current advice on disclosure and corporate



governance matters, corporate and securities regulatory issues, and transactional structuring. Our securities lawyers have broad experience representing clients that range from Fortune 50 companies to startups. There are few securities issues that we have not seen, and we are fully equipped to handle the most sophisticated offerings and other securities transactions, as well as the daily securities needs of our public company clients, in effectively managing corporate and investor communications, disclosures, and filings.

Representative Experience

- Advised an NYSE-listed REIT on the Institutional Shareholder Services (ISS) group of companies' recently launched Environmental & Social (E&S) QualityScore to measure corporate disclosure on environmental and social issues.
- Advised a global network infrastructure provider company on ESG policy and disclosure matters.
- Advised a major U.S. real estate investment trust on ESG policy and disclosure matters.
- Advised a publicly traded hospitality company with a warehouse facility transaction that was the first time it incorporated ESG-based key performance indicators into the pricing structure and, one of the first deals in the structured finance industry to leverage sustainability-linked pricing.
- Advised a financial institution on ESG oversight matters and related disclosures.
- Advised a leading US marketer of Hispanic soft drinks, foods, and authentic Mexican brands imported from Mexico on ESG-related matters.
- Advised a private real estate fund on ESG policy and disclosure matters.
- Advised a leading global confectionery company in connection with regulatory and sustainability-related matters.
- Advised a bank holding company in connection with a comprehensive ESG disclosure framework.
- Advised companies on eligibility requirements for recognized environmental stewardship certifications, such as Energy Star, Safer Choice, WaterSense, and WasteWise.
- Advised a public company on ESG matters, including board oversight and proxy disclosures.
- Advised an independent investment management company in connection with a revolving credit facility involving a major commercial bank as sustainability coordinator.
- Advised a data management, reporting and analytics company in their role as ESG Verification Agent in connection with structured US RMBS matters.
- Advised clients on all aspects of regulatory compliance, permitting, and enforcement actions under state and federal environmental laws for reporting purposes.
- Advised an investment fund in connection with the formation of a green bond/venture debt fund.
- Advised a renewable energy company in connection with various projects including the formation of a renewable energy fund, trademark applications and tax matters.
- Advised a leading U.S. industrial REIT in connection two green bond offerings.
- Advised a financial institution in connection with ESG matters including its ESG Report and 10K disclosure.

ESG Advisory Team



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