

HKS acknowledges the professional responsibilities we have to promote equitable and sustainable development in the natural and built environments and to implement energy and resource conscious design.

Introduction:

As an architecture and design firm, we recognize the significant impact our industry has on the environment, society, and the overall well-being of communities. We are committed to sustainable development and acknowledge our responsibility to minimize negative environmental impacts, promote social equity, and contribute to the creation of thriving and resilient communities. This policy statement outlines our commitment to sustainable development and our approach to integrating sustainability principles into our projects and practices.

Environmental Equity and Justice:

HKS will promote fairness and safety in providing professional services and make reasonable efforts to advise our clients and employers of our obligations to the environment, including: access to clean air, water, sunlight and energy for all; sustainable production, extraction, transportation and consumption practices; a built environment that equitably supports human health and well-being and is resistant to climate change; and restoring degraded or depleted natural resources.

Energy & Resource Use:

We will prioritize energy efficiency and responsible resource use in our design solutions. We will set ambitious performance goals for greenhouse gas emission reduction with our clients while ensuring their business outcomes are achieved.

Water Management:

We will optimize water conservation and efficiency in our offices and our projects including the protection of water supply, water quality, and watershed resources.

Air Pollution:

We are committed to minimizing air pollution associated with our operations and projects. We will select and use building materials to minimize exposure to toxins and pollutants in the environment to promote environmental and human health and to reduce waste and pollution.

Forests, Biodiversity, Land Use:

We acknowledge the critical role of forests, biodiversity, and land use in maintaining healthy ecosystems. We will consider with our clients the impact of each project on the natural habitat and ecosystem to promote environmental, species and human health.

Climate Change:

We will incorporate adaptation strategies with our clients to anticipate extreme weather events and minimize adverse effects on the environment, economy and public health.



Rand Ekman, FAIA, LEED Fellow
Chief Sustainability Officer
December 2023