



# **Environmental, Social & Governance Group (ESGG)**

# Approximately \$30 trillion of the world's assets are currently managed to account for environmental, social & governance (ESG) risks and opportunities.

ENVIRONMENTAL	SOCIAL	GOVERNANCE
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Energy &amp; fuel efficiency</li> <li>• Water scarcity &amp; sanitation</li> <li>• Waste management</li> <li>• Air pollution</li> <li>• Climate change</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Supply chain &amp; materials sourcing management</li> <li>• Diversity</li> <li>• Labor management &amp; community relations</li> <li>• Health &amp; safety</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Board composition</li> <li>• Ownership, control &amp; investor rights</li> <li>• Executive compensation</li> <li>• Corporate behavior, accounting &amp; audit practices</li> <li>• Cybersecurity</li> <li>• Bribery &amp; corruption</li> </ul>

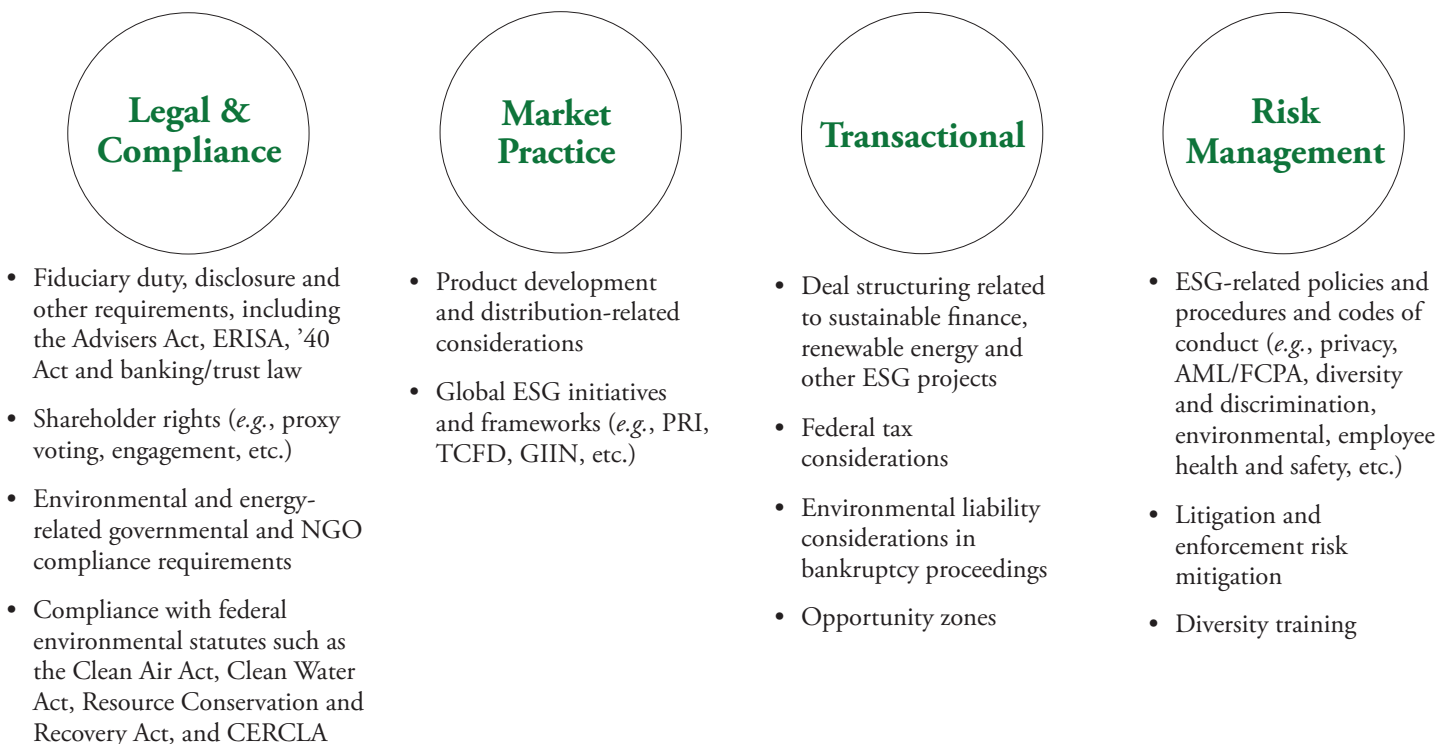
*Note: The above are representative examples and not a complete list.*

Institutional investors and operating companies big and small continue to see ESG issues as sources of risk and opportunity to their bottom lines. We are witnessing significant global legal developments, heightened regulatory scrutiny and greater stakeholder sensitivity to ESG issues.

Institutional investors, such as ERISA plans, registered investment companies, endowments, foundations and hedge funds, are under increasing pressure to take ESG factors into account in their investment decision-making, proxy voting and shareholder engagement processes. Investment advisers, broker-dealers, family offices and others are also now addressing ESG risks and opportunities with respect to their own firms in response to greater concern by clients and employees.

Operating companies are also sensitive to ESG. Whether it is pursuing renewable energy projects, managing environmental compliance, evaluating sustainable financing opportunities, shoring up their cybersecurity defenses, or embarking on diversity and inclusion initiatives, ESG is at the forefront for many operating companies across industries.

With ESG having gone mainstream, Stradley's Environmental, Social & Governance Group offers clients a holistic approach to help them navigate this fluid landscape of legal and regulatory developments, stewardship codes, disclosure frameworks and nongovernmental organization (NGO) codes of conduct. Our four pillars are:



## Our ESG Experience Includes:

- Advising asset managers and fund boards on ESG-related regulatory implications (e.g., disclosure requirements under federal securities laws) and on fund incorporation of ESG considerations into investment strategy and decisions.
- Advising asset managers that are ERISA fiduciaries on their legal requirements under ERISA with respect to ESG.
- Advising operating companies on environmental and energy-related compliance requirements.
- Reviewing and drafting investment policies for trustees/board committees to invest in socially conscious investments.
- Assisting energy companies in developing alternative energy projects in order to secure regulatory approvals and buy-in from stakeholders.
- Advising on financing strategies that incorporate ESG.
- Assisting real estate and other clients on environmental liabilities under US environmental law.
- Counseling clients on environmental liability issues in bankruptcy proceedings.
- Assisting clients to evaluate the feasibility of establishing or investing in opportunity zones.
- Advising clients on federal tax considerations of renewable energy projects.
- Advising clients regarding compliance issues related to anti-discrimination laws, including the draft of policies related thereto, as well as assisting clients with diversity training.

## Publications and Speaking Events Involving Our ESG Team

[Texas and Maine Approaches to Fossil Fuel Divestment a Cautionary Tale for Investment Managers](#), Client Alert, June 17, 2021

[What You Need To Know About ESG Investing](#), Women in ETFs Philadelphia virtual event, June 16, 2021

[Significant ESG Movement on the ERISA Front](#), Client Alert, May 24, 2021

[CPO / CTA / Investment Adviser Issues](#), FIA Law & Compliance Division Conference, April 2020

[Regulatory Update: Latest Bond Fund Issues](#), Crane Data Bond Fund Symposium, March 26, 2020

[Considering ESG Factors in Investment Selection](#), PLANSPONSOR Webcast, March 18, 2021

[DOL to Revisit Trump ESG-Related Rules](#), Client Alert, March 16, 2021

[A Framework for the DOL's New Proxy Voting Rule](#), Client Alert, January 7, 2021

[Practical Guidance for ESG Incorporation in DC Plans](#), DCIIA Webcast, December 15, 2020

[Renewable Energy Technologies and U.S. Innovation](#), Webcast, December 9, 2020

[Key Considerations: DOL's New Final Regulation on ERISA's Investment Duties \(ESG-Related or Not\)](#), Client Alert, November 11, 2020

[Renewable Energy Tax Policy and U.S. Innovation](#), PLI Chronicle, November/December 2020

[Compliance's Role in ESG Investing and Corporate Engagement](#), National Society of Compliance Professional's National Conference, October 21, 2020

[NJ Governor Signs Environmental Justice Legislation Placing New Requirements on Facilities Operating in Overburdened Communities](#), Client Alert, September 21, 2020

[New DOL Rule Proposal Risks Chilling Proxy Voting and Shareholder Engagement](#), Client Alert, September 2, 2020

[ESG Regulatory Lens – A Guide for Private Fund Managers](#), Webcast, August 11, 2020

[New SEC Proxy Regulations for Proxy Voting Advice Businesses and More Proxy Guidance for Investment Advisers](#), Client Alert, August 4, 2020

[ESG: All Aboard!](#), Webcast, July 23, 2020

[DOL Unveils New ESG Proposal, Raising Significant Questions for ERISA Fiduciaries and the Industry](#), Client Alert, June 24, 2020

[Cyberattacks Panel: Current Threats and How Insureds Can Defend Against Them](#), Fidelity and Surety Law Midwinter Conference, January 2020

[ESG Investing: Legal & Compliance Issues to Consider](#), Presentation, January 2020

[Fund Proxy Voting: What's the Board's Role?](#), Fund Board Views, December 21, 2019

[Cultivating Male Allies & Change Agents](#), Women in Law Summit Series, December 5, 2019

[Offshore Wind Projects: Lay Down the Law](#), The Beacon, Fall 2019

[Energy Project Finance Considerations](#), Practising Law Institute, September 21, 2019

[Criminal Liability for Abuse of Renewable Fuel Credits](#), Client Alert, June 2019



For more information on our Environmental, Social & Governance Group, visit [www.stradley.com/esg](http://www.stradley.com/esg).

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## OUR COMMITMENT TO DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION

Stradley is committed to diversity for many reasons: because it provides a voice to the unique perspectives of all our attorneys; because it reflects the evolving face of the legal profession; and because it allows us to provide the highest-quality services to our clients, who are as diverse as we are. Most of all, though, Stradley is committed to diversity because we believe there is strength in the differences among our experiences and world views.

[www.stradley.com](http://www.stradley.com)

## LOCATIONS

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