

The Green Energy Newsletter,

Written by Architects and Engineers - for Architects, Builders, Developers & Real Estate Professionals.

© MARK ENGLISH - ARCHITECTS 250 Columbus Street, Ste. 200, San Francisco, CA. 94133 415 391-0186

ALAN HUGENOT, Certified Energy Plans Examiner (CEPE), Certified Energy Analyst, CEA®
Director – Energy Compliance (415) 531-6172 Alan@markenglisharchitects.com

MICRO-HYDRO: We hear a lot about wind power and photo voltaic power generation, but when it comes to what we can actually do in a practical way, the wind power is often illegal to install in our neighborhood, and we usually can't afford the photo-voltaic installation.

But, there is one area of clean renewable energy that most people haven't thought of. Micro-Hydro. This is where you have any sort of elevation change in your property that creates a water wall, even a downspout, or a merely seasonal flow. 30 years ago I designed six micro hydro plants small elevation changes in for irrigation ditches in the Grand Coolee Dam irrigation project in Eastern Washington. All of them were seasonal flows, and one was even named Summer Falls, and one was only 6kw, My boats usually have larger gen sets (9-12kw).

Currently, there is a growing trend in home micro-hydro installations. All you need is a little rain an elevation change, some enthusiasm, PVC pipe, a turbine and a little know how to convert your run-off water into electric power. [Home Energy Magazine](#) has a great series of how to design it and how to do it articles on this. And it is something an architect can easily work into a storm water retention program

for more green points. Check all this out at

<http://www.homepower.com/home/>



This PVC penstock routes the water from the small dam down the hill to the turbine where it generates electricity.

REMEMBER WE DO TITLE 24 - If you have questions on any aspect of Green Energy, Sustainability, LEED, Green Point Ratings or Title 24, simply give Alan or Mark a call at (415 391-0186) to discuss your Title 24 documentation needs or any Green Energy Subject. **We provide the best Title 24 service in California**, through the synergism of an Architect and an Energy Engineer working together to enhance your project.