

Micro Green Cut Tedious Research by 75% & Cleared LEED Certifications on First Review



Green Badger's Turnkey Consulting Service taught Micro Green Consulting the construction-phase playbook and turned that knowledge into repeatable business.

When Kelsey Lenhoff left a commissioning-agent firm to launch Micro Green Consulting, she brought her LEED AP credential, a handful of inherited projects, and a problem every sustainability consultant knows by heart: construction-phase materials tracking. On paper, it belongs to the general contractor. In practice, it lands on whoever refuses to let the project fail. Submittals pile up, EPDs go unverified, and quantities scatter across spreadsheets in a dozen formats until the consultant rolls up her sleeves and untangles it all retroactively, hoping nothing was missed.

Micro Green decided to stop hoping. Over roughly a year, the firm has worked with Green Badger across five projects, using both Green Badger's full Turnkey Consulting Services and the self-managed software platform.



The turnkey service has been an amazing experience. I understood the design side, but compliance and EPDs, that was all 'the GC's stuff.' Working with Lauren and Kristin made it so much more approachable.

It's been invaluable.

— Kelsey Lenhoff,
Micro Green Consulting

THE TURNKEY PROJECT: LEARNING THE PLAYBOOK

Micro Green's first engagement was the University of the Pacific Southwest Hall student housing, where Green Badger's Lauren Breckenridge took on the entire management of construction-phase tracking — coordinating day-to-day with the general contractor and keeping the platform current — while Micro Green managed the overall certification process and the client relationship.

The rhythm was biweekly review meetings, live dashboards, and (most valuable, in Kelsey's telling) Lauren's pushbacks: notes to the GC to photograph SMACNA measures, reminders to diversify materials before a reviewer could flag the gap, guardrails applied while there was still time to act on them, etc.

(CONTINUED)

Southwest Hall is still active and closing in 2026. But the Turnkey engagement had a second effect Green Badger never invoiced for: it functioned as an apprenticeship.

Like many consultants who come up on the design side of LEED, Kelsey had been wary of construction-phase tracking — EPDs, Option 2 reporting optimization, compliance documentation traditionally filed under “the GC’s problem.” Working alongside Lauren, backed by Green Badger’s webinars and cheat sheets, made it approachable. It gave Micro Green the confidence to run the next projects alone.

Micro Green Consulting
Speeds Up The Process



Every project needs Green Badger. What would take me an hour researching could take me less than two minutes. I don't know why anyone wouldn't use it.

— Sarah Lenhoff

Micro Green Consulting

THE PLATFORM PROJECTS: RUNNING IT AT SCALE

Micro Green put that confidence to work on three LogisticCenter projects and the Veterinary Genetics Laboratory at UC Davis, several of them retroactive rescues — engagements where the GC needed tracking support and Micro Green was hired to sort out the data. This time, instead of reconciling spreadsheets by hand, the firm ran everything through Green Badger’s platform.

Two features carried the load.



The first is the material database. Pre-vetted compliance data on a deep catalog of common products. A single product that once took an hour of research now takes moments to verify. Across as many as 70 products with successful EPDs on a typical project — plus the larger pool that has to be sifted to find them — that compounds into the difference between a 40-hour manual effort and about 10 hours using Green Badger.

The second is live feedback.

Because submittals are checked against compliance requirements in real time, a non-compliant product surfaces immediately — often with a suitable alternative attached — instead of at closeout, when the only remedies are expensive ones. Staying compliant in real time, rather than reconstructing compliance after the fact, is what turned retroactive cleanup from Micro Green’s burden into its differentiator.

Certified projects: LEED v4 BD+C: Core and Shell (v4.1 material credits) — met on every one.

75%

Less material research time:
~40 hrs down to 10/project

3 for 3

Certified on first GBCI review =
less time wasted waiting or
answering comments

Up to 3

Extra LEED points earned per
project, at no added cost

THE OUTCOME

On the three projects where Micro Green ran the platform itself, all three earned LEED certification on the first round of GBCI construction review — no comments, no second round. GBCI can take up to 25 business days per review; skipping it entirely, three times in a row, was a first in Kelsey's career.

"To get through GBCI on the first pass, accepted as-is after a first round of construction review, is nothing I've ever seen until working with Green Badger. It saved us weeks of waiting and rework," Kelsey explained.

The certifications also came in heavier than scoped. Before Green Badger, Micro Green scorecarded conservatively: Option 1 on EPDs and material ingredients, no exemplary-performance points anticipated.

With the database and live feedback doing the verification work, the firm now regularly reaches Option 2 on EPDs or material ingredients and earns exemplary performance — one to three points more per project beyond the original scorecard, at no additional cost to the owner.

For a project sitting on the edge of its target certification level, those points are the difference between securing the goal and missing it.

OWN THE PROCESS

"We would rather stay on time than clean up a huge mess at the end and miss. Green Badger is, in our opinion, essential — and we've never seen anything else available like it."

— **Micro Green Consulting**

Kelsey's advice to fellow consultants is blunt: Don't wait for the GC to volunteer. Make Green Badger part of your standard process — either run tracking yourself through the platform, or bring in the turnkey service — and let the GC contribute photos and data rather than own a system they may never prioritize. Real-time compliance beats retroactive cleanup every time, in hours billed and in points kept.

What makes Micro Green so special?

As Kelsey puts it, "Micro Green is a small team that truly cares about more than the LEED points. We are a very involved / invested team and actively hands-on with each project.

We're adept with tools and strategies that organize and streamline the process, but don't operate in a silo. We collaborate with the teams, keep their goals in our sights, and remain honest and conservative in our approach. Green Badger is one of those tools that helps us trust our point count. Integrity is everything."